

## 'Sus' law is dead, judges confirm

Two judges held on appeal that a prosecution brought by the Metropolitan Police under the controversial, and now defunct, "sus" law was illegal. Their ruling confirms that the law is to be considered a dead letter. The relevant section of the Vagrancy Act, 1824, has been replaced by the Criminal Attempts Act. Page 2

## Armed men near Pope arrested

Police arrested an armed Nigerian trying to force his way into the Lagos stadium, shortly before the celebration of the Nigerian new year. A group carrying a loaded pistol were arrested at Kaduna after the Pope's visit. Page 6

## Gas users face 23pc rise

Domestic gas bills are expected to rise by 23 per cent over the next year. They will go up by 12 per cent in April and a further 10 per cent in October. Industry's gas bills are also to rise sharply. Page 2

## WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

### Award for The Times

Granada Television's "What the Papers Say" panel has named the Editor of The Times as Editor of the Year. Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition, and the Liberal leader, Mr David Steel, made the presentations of the awards. Page 2

### More readers

The circulation of The Times for July-December 1981 was 297,787, representing an increase of 6.71 per cent on the same period of 1980 (when it was 279,053). This is the highest percentage increase in its field.

### Penlee praise

Mrs Margaret Thatcher paid tribute to the "remarkable people" of the Penlee lifeboat organisation at a service in Truro Cathedral, to commemorate the deaths of the men lost in the Penlee lifeboat disaster. Page 3

### US-Israel rift

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, appealed to President Reagan to scrap any planned sale of arms to Jordan. Page 6

### Namibian split

The multiracial Democratic Turnhalle Alliance in Namibia has been effectively destroyed as a serious political force with the resignation of Mr Peter Kalandula, the party president and leader of the influential Ovambo grouping. Page 6

### Muggings rise

An increase in muggings and robberies described as "massive" is worrying police officers. Rises have been reported in areas affected by riots last summer. Back page

### London derby

Tottenham Hotspur, the FA Cup holders, have been drawn away to Chelsea in the quarter-finals. West Bromwich Albion and Coventry City, the only other first division clubs left in the competition, meet each other. Page 17

## TROUBLED ALLIES

In the first of a series of four articles by former national leaders on the state of the alliance, Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's national security adviser from 1976 to 1980, asks whether the relationship between Nato and the Warsaw Pact countries is still entirely valid. He argues that the question must be asked if we are to avoid a re-ignition of the Cold War. Page 10

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## Oil rig sinks in storm and 84 crew lost at sea

From Christopher Thomas, New York, Feb 15

All 84 men who abandoned a sinking oil rig in raging storms and 50ft high waves off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada, were feared dead tonight. The rig's three 42ft lifeboats were located by air rescue teams within a five-mile radius but there was no sign of life.

Aircraft reported seeing bodies in the water, but blizzard conditions prevented a count. One lifeboat was found capsized, the stern of another was low in the water and a third was apparently drifting without control. Three empty lifeboats and debris were also seen.

Reports from St John's said the rig had sunk and that the site had been identified by helicopter through the rig's anchor buoys and wave-riding buoys.

The rig, Ocean Ranger, operated by Mobil Oil Canada Ltd, disappeared beneath the sea 160 miles off St John's on the island of Newfoundland. It was one of the world's largest semi-submersible platforms, 395ft by 262ft and self-propelled. All that remained tonight were anchor buoys and wave-riding buoys.

Rescue teams reported minimum visibility, heavy sleet and snow, winds of 70 mph and a 50ft swell. "It would be just about impossible to rescue anybody even if we found them," Mobil officials said. St John's rescue boats, however, managed to bring some bodies on board. A helicopter crewman said he managed to touch the life-jacket of one of the bodies in the water but was unable to lift him because of heavy spray from the waves. The pilot of the first rescue helicopter to reach the area said the four or five bodies he saw were wearing survival suits and life jackets.

Mobil said the Ocean Ranger, which was launched in 1976, has been drilling off New-



RIG SANK HERE

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175 miles

NEWFOUNDLAND

CANADA

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## How the SAS heroes dared to win

Bill Warburton



SAS men dropping from helicopters in a mock raid on the roof of Pinewood Studios' main building in Buckinghamshire yesterday. The building, restructured to look like the residence of the American Ambassador

## MEPs call for petrol free of lead in EEC

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Feb 15

In line with what Mrs Thatcher suggested in the House of Commons last week, Conservative MEPs at the European Parliament in Strasbourg today called for an EEC directive to ensure that all cars made to the report yesterday as BR announced in a special crisis issue "of its newspaper Railnews that 16,000 jobs were now at risk because of the strike. The threatened jobs are in addition to the 38,000 planned to disappear between 1981 and 1985.

It is understood that the union parties to the inquiry, British Rail, the National Union of Railwaymen and the Transport Salaried Staffs Association were given an outline of the report last night and will receive full copies early today.

General secretaries of the unions, along with senior BR officials, will go to the London offices of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service to discuss the inquiry's findings. It is expected that Mr Pat Lowry, ACAS chairman, will then try to draw into talks the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (ASLEF) which earlier refused to cooperate.

The ASLEF executive meets this morning and is scheduled to discuss what disruption there will be to services next week, in addition to the strikes already announced for Thursday and Sunday.

A meeting of the BR board postponed from last Friday, will be held later today and will discuss its attitude to the inquiry report. It is widely thought that the committee will recommend that BR pays the 3 per cent increase it has been withholding from ASLEF members but will also make recommendations designed to secure a swift agreement on flexible rostering for footplate staff.

However Mr Ray Buckton, ASLEF general secretary again made it clear yesterday that his executive would not accept an inquiry report which placed conditions on the payment of the 3 per cent.

Mr Buckton, along with Mr Sidney Weighell and Mr Tom Jenkins, general secretaries of the NUR and TSSA respectively, met Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers to discuss miners' support for the train drivers.

Mr Weighell had warned the miners to avoid taking any action which would worsen the dispute and the union leaders agreed that any problems involving blacking of extra coal deliveries by road, when there were train strikes, should be resolved locally.

Referring to the claimed jobs loss Mr Buckton said the full responsibility for it happening had to be laid fairly and squarely on the shoulders of the British Railways Board.

Up to a thousand jobs at Harland & Wolff, the Belfast shipbuilding and engineering group, could be axed within the next few weeks.

The company, Northern Ireland's largest single employer, which has received £137m in government aid over the past few years, is desperately short of new orders to maintain employment, especially for steel working trades.

All four ships on its present order book—two liquefied petroleum gas carriers for charter by Shell, and two tankers for British Petroleum—are due for delivery by the middle of next year.

## Dispute threatening 16,000 jobs says BR

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Lord McCarthy's report on the rail dispute will be published this morning when footplate men stage their sixteenth one-day stoppage. New attempts will be made to bring British Rail and the unions together to find a solution to the dispute on the basis of the committee of inquiry's report.

Final touches were being made to the report yesterday as BR announced in a special crisis issue "of its newspaper Railnews that 16,000 jobs were now at risk because of the strike. The threatened jobs are in addition to the 38,000 planned to disappear between 1981 and 1985.

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## 14-year low for factory output

By David Blake, Economic Editor

Manufacturing output fell to its lowest for over 14 years in December, according to official figures published yesterday. The 2.3 per cent drop came after a 1.9 per cent fall in November and dealt a blow to Government hopes that the economy is recovering from the recession.

Total industrial production also went down by 1.1 per cent in December, in spite of a sharp boost in energy production because of the cold weather.

Bad weather is to blame for at least part of the December downturn. Many factories had to shut down or cut their production because workers and components could not get through the snow.

But even without the impact of the weather, which is likely to have an equal effect on January figures, industrial production showed some signs of faltering.

The signs of weakening output came at the worst moment for Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had been hoping to encourage industrial recovery without big tax concessions in his next Budget.

But the figures are unlikely to deflect him from his view that the worst of the recession is over and that industrial output will recover gently throughout 1982.

The Treasury had expected that the growth in production seen in the autumn of 1981 would falter around the turn of the year. Much of the boost to demand seen in the late summer and early autumn came from a near end to the rundown of stocks.

Companies which had lived throughout the recession by using up the stocks which they had built up earlier started relying on production once again.

During the rest of this year the Government hopes that some recovery in industrial investment and increased exports will provide extra demand.

But this takes time to make itself felt and companies may have become worried around Christmas by signs that the consumers, who had been spending right through the worst months of the recession, were starting to cut back.

Figures for December alone are distorted by the weather, but estimates for the last three months of the year show the varying pattern of industrial development between different sectors.

The most surprising feature to survive the last troubled months has been the concept "standards", a curiously Victorian pride in achievement or behaviour. A tailor has been recommended to me by a colleague and it seemed that a visit was in order if only to see how craftsmen are surviving.

This man has the breezy resourcefulness of an army quartermaster. "Yes," he says, with one of those physically objective glances that distinguish tailors, surgeons and undertakers, "Tweed jackets, are no problem."

He brings out two rolls of cloth, not really tweed but something similar, one an old splintered orange shade, the other an exaggerated green. Continued on back page, col 5

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## Warsaw is back to kissing hands

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Feb 15

The girls are back, of course, standing in a hazy defile in the few central Warsaw hotels unoccupied by police or militia. The conversationalists are back too, neither more nor less discriminating than the girls, routing for glibly listeners and reaching for well padded metaphors.

In the Hortex cafe overlooking the Marsalkowska thoroughfare, a venerable sage rehearses his lines: "You talk to me about martial law; but I tell you, it's simply bad opera, Puccini with lyrics by Clausewitz."

"The state of war is the extension of reformist politics by other means. Do you believe that? Do you believe in paradoxes with happy endings?"

One strains to hear because he has chosen to speak broken French rather than listen to broken Polish. The students near by giggle, they have heard it before, here in the Hortex and in other cafes; but not since martial law.

For the first time in two months, people are not worrying about informers, about guarding tongues and not meeting foreigners. For the past few weeks, conversation has been an ailing form, rather like theatre in Macclesfield or experimental dance in Sverdlovsk. Now it is back, though as a substitute for action rather than an optional extra.

The suspended animation is over; the sense of shock has faded. Sometimes that expresses itself in open protest—in Poznan, in Gdansk—sometimes in covert protest—in Wrocław, in Lodz, in the capital—but more often than not in a species of contempt that has little to do with political activism.

Before the "war"—as they have dubbed martial law—the Poles, it seemed, used to commune between feelings of cheerful pessimism and messianic hope. Now, they position themselves somewhere on a spectrum of cynicism. Some say: "It won't last, nothing does."

Other say: "It will probably last much longer than we all think; but who cares?—we can get on with other things."

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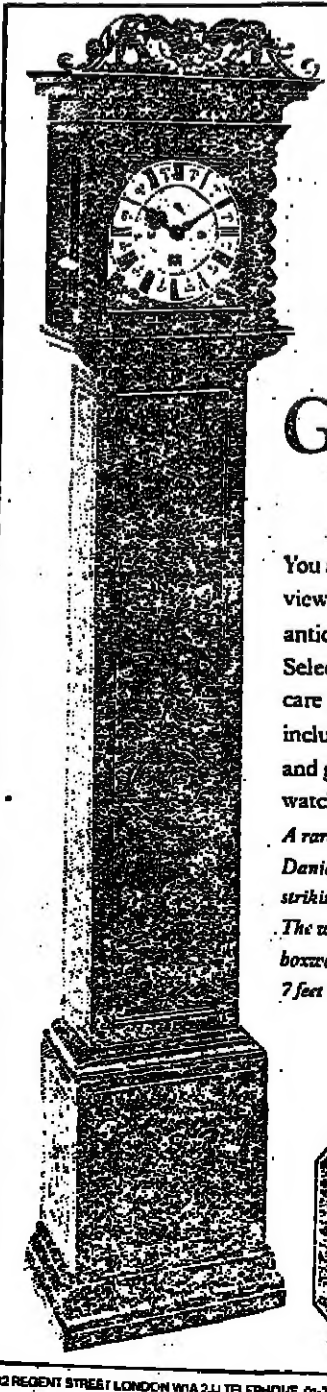
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## Garrard antiques

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A rare small veneered clock by Daniel Quare, with 8-day striking movement. Date circa 1685.

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# Judges' ruling spells end to 'sus' law charges

By Frances Gibb

A prosecution brought by the Metropolitan Police under the controversial and now defunct "sus" law, or section 4 of the Vagrancy Act, 1824, was held to be illegal by two High Court judges yesterday.

In a test ruling which will affect more than a hundred potential prosecutions throughout London, Lord Justice Ackner and Mr Justice Woolf allowed an appeal by a student, aged 19, against a decision by Mr Eric Crowther, supervisory magistrate at West London.

They held the magistrate was wrong in law to reject a submission on November 10 last year that he had no jurisdiction to try the defendant on a "sus" charge brought before the Act was abolished last year, but not heard until afterwards, and ordered the charge to be dropped.

The ruling means that the highly unpopular "sus" law, which was repealed when the Criminal Attempts Act came into force on August 27, 1981 after considerable public concern over its use, is well and truly a dead letter.

Giving judgment for both judges, Mr Justice Woolf said that whenever there was a repeal of a criminal offence, there would be anomalies. On any interpretation of the Criminal Attempts Act, a person who committed an offence just before the Act came into force, which would have been capable of prosecution under section 4 of the Vagrancy Act,

would no longer be capable of being prosecuted after the Act was implemented.

"The Act has to apply the ruling at a fixed point and that fixed point must be in certain circumstances be arbitrary", Mr Justice Woolf said.

He added that it had to be remembered that the High Court was concerned with whether a member of the public should be subject to penal consequences under a statutory provision.

"In such a situation, if there is doubt in mind the proper approach is to take a view that will result in the subject not being under liability for criminal prosecution."

After the two hours and a half hearing, Mr Justice Ackner, solicitor for the student, Casimir Simons, of Tottenham, north London, said: "This is a vindication of what I argued before the magistrate. I am gratified that the uncertainty has been resolved. This means that some 125 cases are no longer capable of being prosecuted and charges must be dropped."

Mr Vivian Robinson, counsel for the Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police, said that considerable anomalies and injustices would result if the appeal was upheld.

If two people were arrested on "sus" charges at the same time, but for some reason the trial of one was held up until after August 27 when "sus" was repealed, one defendant

could be found guilty and the other get off because no prosecution could be brought.

There were 35 such cases fixed for trial in London, he said, and 95 unexecuted warrants arising from the failure of defendants to appear at court when bailed to answer "sus" charges, 74 of which were issued prior to August 27.

Of those, 13 involved cases where one defendant had appeared in court but the co-defendant, whose trial had been held up, did not. "So 13 people will be able to say: 'My co-defendant was convicted and had a sentence imposed, but I escaped any conviction'", Mr Robinson argued.

If Parliament had intended so wide an anomaly it would have said so in the clearest terms.

He added that in repealing the Vagrancy Act, Parliament had, in section 9 of the Criminal Attempts Act, preserved the spirit of the Vagrancy Act. That section included the offence of interfering with vehicles "which was one of the most prevalent areas to which section 4 used to apply."

Parliament there quite obviously intended in that Act to preserve a part of the Vagrancy Act provisions, he said. Of the 35 cases fixed for a hearing, 14 were of this kind.

If the appeal was upheld, the defendant could escape the consequences of an activity which Parliament still considers to be objectionable."

Law report, page 8

## Tebbit not to seek abolition of union levy

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

The Government has decided that it will not act to curtail the special relationship between trade unionists and the Labour Party by changing the rules on the union's political levy.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, is understood to have set his face against any alteration of the present arrangements under which workers, if their union is affiliated to the Labour Party, have to "contract out" if they want to stop paying the levy.

Some Tory backbenchers have argued that the rules should be altered so that employees would have to "contract in" to pay the levy. They have recently been joined by senior Social Democrat politicians who are anxious to snap the financial umbilical cord between the unions and the Labour Party.

Mr Tebbit believes that the financing of political parties is a complex issue that has to be dealt with in the round, rather than by legislative assault on the funding of one party.

He is also unlikely to go further than his new Employment Bill, which provides for damages up to £250,000 for unlawful conduct in defiance of new regulations governing industrial action.

Mr Tebbit prides himself on not having had to gutturalise a Bill during its passage through the House of Commons, but it seems certain that he is ready to curtail debate by MPs of his controversial measures if they run into a Labour filibuster.

At this stage no serious challenges are expected to the proposed legislation during its passage through a Commons committee, but if there are delays that threaten to prevent the second stage of the bill, Mr Tebbit is bound to use the statute book this summer. He will invoke a parliamentary timetable.

The Secretary of State is also examining the operation of the new wages regulations which have been giving wages rises to the lower-paid substantial higher than the norm for settlements desired by the Government.

The department is also reviewing the results of arbitration awards, particularly in public service and nationalised industries. It may also produce measures to lessen the number of circumstances in which unions, in dispute over pay, can militarily go to arbitration.

Mr Tebbit accepts the line laid down by Mr James Prior, his predecessor, that "arbitration should be available to wage disputes, particularly where they concern government employees, only if both sides agree to that course of action."

## Benn backs youth trainees' strike

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Young people on the Government's Youth Opportunities Programme in Merseyside are to stage a one-day strike on February 15 as part of a campaign, backed by the Labour Party, to win union rights and rates of pay for the trainees on the programme.

Mr Andy Bevan, the party's national youth officer, said that wherever there was a considerable anomalies and injustices would result if the appeal was upheld.

If two people were arrested on "sus" charges at the same time, but for some reason the trial of one was held up until after August 27 when "sus" was repealed, one defendant

the trainees, and five weeks' paid holiday a year.

The encouragement to the trainees, who receive a £25 a week allowance, to take strike action is bound to cause alarm among those Labour MPs worried by the party's association with the campaign.

When the national executive debated giving trainees union rights last year Mr John Gower, a prominent right-winger, described the proposal, moved by Mr Benn, as crackers.

Mr Benn was asked yesterday whether the executive support for the campaign also meant it backing the strike call. He said: "The Labour Party does not call for strike action. Strike action is taken by bodies of workers with the support of their trade unions."

We are giving support to the young people trying to get into unions and the unions where they try to defend their rights."

## 'Times' NUJ asks Murray to intervene in crisis

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the NUJ, was last night urged to intervene in the crisis by the newspaper's National Union of Journalists chapel (office branch).

The move came as the Department of Trade began looking at the possibility of the transfer of the titles of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* from Times Newspapers Ltd to the parent company, News International, had breached the conditions under which the purchase of the newspapers by Mr Rupert Murdoch last February was approved.

The *Times* NUJ chapel wrote last night to Mr Murray urging him to arrange speedy negotiations between unions and management. The management has said closure will be ordered "within days" unless it has agreement to cut 600 full-time jobs from the payroll up to several hundred part-time ones. Mr Murray chaired the talks which ended the dispute at the *Sunday Times* last night.

The company was at pains to emphasize yesterday that although it had asked for applications for voluntary redundancy to be entered by 10 am on Thursday, it had not set any specific deadline for closure or the breakdown of negotiations.

It stood by Mr Murdoch's warning that agreement was needed "within days rather than weeks" Mr Murdoch is

expected to arrive on Friday from the United States.

Mr O'Brien said: "I do not think I can accept 600 redundancies irrespective of the consequences which I very much regret."

Mr Owen O'Brien, general secretary of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel, the union most severely affected by the planned cuts, spoke on BBC radio yesterday of his union's willingness to negotiate with the management. He suggested that a compromise might in time be reached between the management's figure of 600 full-time cuts and our people's, but said that could be done in the time set by Mr Murdoch.

Asked whether the union would accept the full 600 job cuts rather than closure, he said: "No."

The letter sent to the Department of Employment by the NUJ management last week informing it of the planned redundancies discloses that the company is seeking a reduction of 300 casual or part-time staff as well as the 600 full-time jobs.

The *Times* NUJ chapel last night urged Mr John Riffen, Secretary of State for Trade, to meet its representatives and to order an immediate halt to the company's action "to allow the department to investigate the legality of the transfer of the titles, assess whether the move would be viable and determine whether there has been asset-stripping just prior to a planned liquidation."

## Foot sets test for Trotskyists

By Anthony Bervin, Political Correspondent

Mr Michael Foot said last night that he was not prepared to tolerate anti-democratic views in the Labour Party.

The Leader of the Opposition said in an interview on BBC's *Panorama* programme that the creation of a Labour Party in the country and the Commons was the main item in the party constitution.

"Those of us who insist, as I insist, as Denis Healey insists, as Tony Benn insists, I believe, as most people in the party believe, that it must be permanent democracy, those of us who do that, are in full accord with the party constitution," he said.

Mr Foot said that some people were engaged in "a conspiracy to undermine the work of Parliament itself. That was unacceptable."

But he then added: "If some people come along and say 'We need a party conference', we will accept that. But we must not allow them to undermine the work of Parliament itself. That was unacceptable."

He went on: "We in the Labour Party are not prepared to have that, because we believe the attempt to establish things by undemocratic means results in something quite different."

Mr Foot refused to make direct comment on the Militant Tendency's future inside the Labour Party, saying that he could make no pronouncements while the party inquiry was being carried out, but his remarks on parliamentary democracy could be taken as an indication of his test for the party's Trotskyists once the Militant report has been completed.

Be also said that the long-standing divisions of the party were nowadays marked by a new tolerance, to which he was absolutely opposed.

The remarks, which examined the state of the party, included remarks by party members that the next election was not a matter of supreme importance, a view held by some people on the left.

Mr Foot said that such views horrified him. "I believe that that is a wrong perspective from any point of view of the Labour Party."

The spirit of Bishop's Stortford, he added, was that the left, the centre and the right should combine to win the next election.

Turning to the social democrats, which has helped to concentrate Labour's mind on unity, he said that they had no political principle.



Mr Harold Evans, with Mr Michael Foot at the award ceremony yesterday.

## 'Times' won award, editor says

By David Hewson

Mr Harold Evans, editor of *The Times*, was named Editor of the Year by Granada Television's *What The Papers Say* programme yesterday.

Mr Brian Inglis, who has worked with the programme since it began in 1956, said when announcing the award: "In the year he (Mr Evans) has been editor he has changed it almost out of all recognition."

"All of us (in the panel of judges) had some criticisms as well as some compliments to deliver but we agreed that to have carried through such a formidable revolution without sending *Times* readers screaming to the *Telegraph* or *Guardian* was a remarkable achievement."

Both Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, and Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, who jointly made the award presentation, wished the newspaper well during the next few crucial days, although the case of Mr Foot, not without a few jocular asides.

Mr Evans told the awards ceremony that the credit was to *The Times* and not himself. "We have five days in which to save *The Times*" and "The journalists there are dedicatedly doing the management in this attempt to make it viable."

"I want to thank you for your interest and support because without the attention

of the rest of the press, which has been first class, we wouldn't have brought this on to the agenda of the nation."

"I am dedicated to the quality of *The Times* and, in view of recent controversy, to its independence, but I recognize that that requires viability."

Other awards were: Newspaper of the year, the *Daily Mirror*; Reporter of the year, Neal Ascherson, of *The Observer*, for his reports from Poland.

Columnist of the year, Roy Hattersley, the Labour politician, for his column in the *Listener*.

Cartoonist of the year, Michael Heath, for his work in, among other publications, *The Sunday Times*, *Private Eye*, *Punch* and the *Spectator*.

Four awards were made to mark the programme's silver jubilee, to people who have been chosen as being worthy to represent the art which has just passed. They were to the *Daily Express* cartoonist Giles, the *Observer* columnist Katherine Whitehorn, the *Daily Mirror* columnist Keith Waterhouse, and the satirical magazine *Private Eye*.

The television programme of the proceedings will be transmitted on Thursday evening on independent television.

## Laker talks go on move made over licence

By a Staff Reporter

Sir Freddie Laker resumed talks in London yesterday with Mr Roland (Tiny) Rowland amid growing doubts about his ability to get a Lombar-financed "People's Airline" into the air.

After flying back with Mr Robert Dutton, a Lombar director, from Paris, where he spoke to the Birmabank syndicate, Sir Freddie was said to be in fine form. However the Civil Aviation Authority, which has given a warning that Laker's Skytrain licence may be suspended from tomorrow, said last night it had received no application from Sir Freddie to extend or transfer the permit.

Laker Airways said: "Everything has to be water-tight before we make an approach to the CAA. Sir Freddie is continuing his talks in the City."

The discussions with Birmabank, which lent the collapsed airline £12m in 1980, were said to have progressed well.

The Authority said: "We are waiting for Sir Freddie to put his proposals to us. We do not know precisely what the licensing and other legal requirements will be until he makes some formal proposals. It would be a lengthy process before licences were granted."

Meanwhile Lloyds of London said Sir Freddie would have to discuss with his underwriting agent his earlier statement that all he possessed was now "pledged to the bank."

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## Home gas users face 23% rise

By Jonathan Davis

British Gas is expected to announce later this week that domestic gas bills are to rise by more than 20 per cent over the next year. The increases will be in two stages, a 12 per cent increase in April and a further 10 per cent increase in October.

The new charges are in line with the Government's policy of raising gas tariffs by 10 per cent more than the rate of inflation every year. This will be the third consecutive year that such increases have been enforced. But the Government has not indicated whether it intends to extend the policy once this year's increases have gone through.

The new charges will affect all customers who take gas supplies of less than 25,000 therms a year, which includes all domestic users and several small firms and shops. The gas bill for a three-bedroom semi-detached house in London with gas-fired central heating and hot water will go up from £250 a year now to £308 a year by the autumn.

Industry's gas bills are also to rise sharply. British Gas has told its industrial users that the cost of renewed annual contracts will go up by 1p a therm every three months, starting next month.

In a full year gas bills for industry will rise by 4p a therm against present levels of about 29p a therm. The "firm" and 25p a therm for interruptible supplies.

Companies on interruptible contracts pay less in return for allowing British Gas to cut them off when national gas demand is at temporarily high peak levels. The rises represent increases of about 13.5 per cent and 16 per cent.

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## Science report

### Pacific birth of tidal waves

By the Staff of "Nature"

A tidal wave half an inch high has been detected off the Pacific coast of America, the first such wave to be detected in the open ocean. Not the kind of thing to destroy homes and factories on the coast, you may think. But the giant tidal waves of the Pacific are in fact only a little higher, a few inches perhaps.

The trouble comes when these rare waves, which are very long and extremely fast-moving (a few hundred miles an hour is typical), pile up on the coast. There, on the shelving sea-floor, they build up into giants higher than houses and cause swift torrents that can drain and inflict harbour doing immense damage. So some means of detecting them in the open ocean could be useful.

The half-inch wave was observed by a French oceanographer, Dr Jean-Filoux, who is at present working at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at La Jolla, California. Dr Filoux and his group have set up pressure detectors at different places on the bed of the north-east Pacific. Twice a minute the detectors take recordings of the weight of water above them; and they are sensitive enough to measure minute changes in the water height.

Every now and then, Dr Filoux collects some of the recordings to analyze back in California, and in one he has now found a clear record of the passage of a series of tidal waves (called in different places on the bed of the world means harbour-wave in Japanese).

Tsunamis are caused not by tides, but by undersea earthquakes which suddenly change the ocean level. In the first part of Dr Filoux's record, a series of three fluctuations, which can be traced back to an earthquake off the Mexican coast. This shiver in the record comes not from a change in water level. Dr Filoux believes, but from the arrival of the waves. In principle, the earthquake through the rock of the ocean floor.

What follows about ninety minutes later is a slow, regular oscillation of pressure which cannot be correlated with rock movements but must come from a motion of the sea surface. Over about two hours, the sea appears to have risen and fallen about four times by about half an inch. The time of arrival of the wave, and the time it took to pass, were just what would be expected of a tsunami generated by a Mexican earthquake whose exact timing was known well by seismic observations at land-based stations.

Thus it seems clear that Dr Filoux has detected a travelling tsunami, and that he should be able to do the same again with his other detectors. In principle, that could be used to give warnings, if only the pressure wave signals could be transmitted automatically to land, perhaps by surface buoy and satellite, in time for the warning to be useful.

As present the only warning is the observation of earthquakes in regions known generate tsunamis, but since such earthquakes only create the devastating waves roughly one quake in five, there is sometimes a reluctance to take the warnings seriously.

Pressure wave detection, in conjunction with seismic observations, could give a more certain warning of an oncoming tsunami, as well as an indication of its size. Unfortunately, the satellite transmitting system now in use is prohibitively expensive. Source: *Geophysical Research Letters* (Vol. 9, p. 25, 1982, in *Nature-Times News Service*, 1982).

## PRIVATE BUS FIRM CLOSES

The first private bus company to break a council monopoly yesterday ceased operations and laid off all 31 staff.

CK Coaches of Cardiff took advantage of the Transport Act in April last year but encountered financial difficulties.

During its operation CK was involved in a battle with the city council, services with drivers exchanging insults in the race to pick up passengers.

Lord Carrington ill



## Anomaly denies council tenants chance to buy

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Government is being asked to examine an anomaly on its new housing legislation which effectively denies up to 50,000 council tenants the right to buy their houses.

The tenants live in houses where the council owns only the leasehold, a category specifically excluded from the "right to buy" provisions of the 1980 Housing Act. It was left out on the ground that the complexities involved would delay its passage through Parliament.

However, Mr. Edward Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend East and a member of the Commons Select Committee on the Environment which last year reported on the sale of houses, yesterday described the position of leasehold tenants as a clear injustice. He said he would be raising it with the Department of the Environment.

Mr. Taylor suggested that tenants allocated leasehold houses should pay less rent and added: "It undoubtedly creates a feeling of injustice. We are offering council tenants a bargain, but in a minority of cases people are being denied the rights of other tenants."

Mr. Taylor has tabled questions to Mr. Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, asking him how many tenants are affected and whether he will review the position. The Government has said it will consider amending legislation.

The anomaly had been highlighted by the case of Mr. and Mrs. David Berry, of Carford, south London, who have had an application to buy rejected by Lewisham Council. Mrs. Berry has gone so far as to buy the freehold of her council house for £740, from a property company but the council, which has 50 years of its 99-year lease to run, still refuses to sell the house.

Mrs. Berry has described the exclusions as a "very serious loophole" in the Housing Act and is seeking to promote a private Act of Parliament to enable her to buy.

The Department estimated that up to 50,000 tenants of a total of six million, were affected and said the exclusions resulted from the pressure of Parliamentary business. The Association of Metropolitan Authorities, controlled by Conservative councils when the Housing Act was passed, said: "At the time we did not feel it was a sufficiently widespread problem and we did not press to have the legislation extended to these tenants."

Leading article, page 11

## Strike halts turkey processors

By John Young

Some 1,200 employees of Britain's largest turkey processing firm, Bernard Matthews Ltd, went on strike yesterday in support of a pay claim.

Officials of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers claimed that about only 30 people had reported for work at the two plants in Great Wingham, Norfolk, and Holton, Suffolk.

The claim is for 25 per cent on a basic wage of £57.71 for an adult worker, a reduction in the working week from 40 to 38 hours, and an extra week's holiday, the company has offered £5.65 across the board which, the union says, would amount to between 5 per cent and 8 per cent on average earnings.

Mr. Jack Boddy, the union's general secretary, said that at a meeting last Friday Mr. Bernard Matthews, the firm's chairman, had refused to negotiate or to refer the dispute to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas).

"The firm is refusing even to discuss the claim," he said. "We had no option but to call a strike."

Mr. Boddy claimed that the firm paid on average about £3 less than comparable businesses in the area and that, since it was doing very well commercially, could well afford to meet the union's demands.

Both claims were rejected yesterday by Mr. David Joll, the processing director, who said they would add £2m to the wages bill. The firm paid the highest wages in the turkey industry and, during many hours of negotiation, had showed union negotiators the accounts for the past five years.

Mr. Boddy had been invited to inspect the figures, but had declined.

The Matthews turkey farms and its breeding and hatching divisions, were not affected by the dispute, Mr. Joll added.

## EX-PATIENT WINS RIGHT TO ACTION

By Lucy Hodges

A former patient at Broadmoor hospital for mentally abnormal offenders has won the first round of his judicial battle in Strasbourg over the law which bars mental patients from suing doctors and nurses.

The European Commission of Human Rights has found the case admissible and will now try to reach a friendly settlement between the two parties: Mr. John Ashingdane, who is represented by MIND, the mental health charity, and the British Government.

Mr. Ashingdane cannot sue the hospital because it denies judicial review of detention and bars most patients from suing.

The Government maintains that Mr. Ashingdane's detention was legal.

## NHS losing millions by abuse, union says

By Annabel Farnham

Correspondent

Millions of pounds are being lost to the National Health Service by consultants using diagnostic and treatment services for private patients without paying for them, a union alleged yesterday.

Blood tests, X-rays, physiotherapy and drugs are often provided for private patients without the doctor declaring his patient's status, the Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs said.

Mr. Reginald Bird, national officer of the association, said in London, that many of its 25,000 health service members had complained about alleged misuse of resources.

The association is urging health authorities to tighten accounting procedures to prevent what it sees as growing abuse.

It says that the status of the patient should be indicated on all requests for laboratory, radiology and other tests and treatment, and a charge made.

The association says the Liverpool Area Health Authority was so worried about the money it could be losing that it carried out an audit last autumn, the results of which have not yet been published.

Mr. Bird also said that some consultants admit their private patients to health service beds and continue to charge consulting fees.

"It is unfair that consultants, who can earn as much as £40,000 a year from the health service and another 10 per cent from private patients, are not about declaring their use of facilities."

"It means that the taxpayer is subsidising private patients," he said. Doctors were among those who told him about the abuses.

The association is also fighting to reduce the hours worked by junior hospital doctors, a quarter of whom work more than 104 hours a week.

A private member's bill, introduced by Lord Wells-Pestell of Combs and backed by the association, which aims to reduce doctors' working hours over eight years to 35 hours a week, is to have its second reading in the Lords today. The Government intends to oppose it.

Mr. Bird said doctors could not be expected to continue to work their present "killing hours" which were harmful to patients and themselves.

The way forward was through legislation.

The British Medical Association, which negotiates for all hospital doctors, said yesterday: "Allegations have been made of corruption by NHS doctors."

"No firm evidence to support these statements has so far been forthcoming but if it can be provided they should be firmly dealt with."

LABOUR CHOICE

Mr. James Orpe, aged 30, a student at Essex University, has been adopted as prospective Labour parliamentary candidate for Brentwood and Ongar. The seat was held for the Conservatives at the last election by Mr. Robert McCrindle with a majority of 16,931.



Mrs. Thatcher with the Bishop of Truro and some of the new Penlee lifeboatmen yesterday.

## Mrs Thatcher joins Penlee mourners

From Craig Seton, Truro

An emotional tribute to the "remarkable people" of the lifeboat service and their families was paid yesterday by Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, at a service in Truro Cathedral to commemorate the deaths of the eight men of the Penlee Lifeboat and the eight people they tried to rescue off the Cornish coast two months ago.

The five widows and 12 children left fatherless when the lifeboat Solomon Browne went down on December 19 were joined by other relatives of the eight dead men and more than 1,400 other mourners at the memorial service. They included several hundred from the Cornish fishing village of Mousehole which provided the crew for the Penlee boat, wrecked going to the aid of the coaster, Union Star, whose eight crew and passengers also died. Many were in tears during the 50min service.

Mrs. Thatcher and her husband, Denis, flew to the service after receiving a letter asking her to attend from the mother of Mr. Kevin Smith, aged 23, a merchant seaman from Mousehole who

joined the Solomon Browne's ill-fated rescue attempt in mountainous seas while he was on leave. Mrs. Thatcher met the families of the dead lifeboatmen after the service and then told reporters that although she had "feared to intrude" she was glad to have attended.

She said: "The families have gathered great strength from the community and one another, and from the bravery and courage which is part of their life as part of the lifeboat service. They are absolutely remarkable people, all of them."

Mrs. Thatcher, dressed in black, said: "There is not a lot you can do to comfort people in this terrible sorrow except do practical things to help and just be there."

The Prime Minister said the families would remember the service for the rest of their lives. Everyone, she said, had had tears in their eyes when the Royal Marines had played the Sunset hymn and Last Post bugle call at the end of the service.

Packed into the cathedral were hundreds of members of the RNLI

including the new crew of the replacement Penlee Lifeboat, the Guy and Clare Hunter, the crews of other lifeboats, members of the coastguard service who took part in the rescue attempt, the Services and many civic dignitaries.

The crew of the new Penlee Lifeboat formed a guard of honour outside the cathedral before the service as 500 people watched outside.

The Bishop of Truro, the Rt Rev. Peter Mumford, in his sermon said: "The eight men of whom we think today failed in the particular mission on which they were engaged. They went to rescue fellow human beings from destruction and death. They did not succeed in that, to the point that they lost their own lives in the process. But that failure was also an achievement — every bit as valuable as what they sought to do. It is only for us who remain to make it a success."

The Penlee Lifeboat Disaster Fund, which was established in the aftermath of the disaster, officially closed to public donations on Sunday with £2.7m in its coffers.

## ITN rejects BBC claim over tanker film

By Kenneth Gosling

Independent Television emergency hearing in a judge's chambers that evening, but that did not succeed because it was said to be too late.

ITN is now deciding its future course of action. The BBC said the RAF at St. Mawgan, Cornwall, had arranged a facility the previous day — "and gave us to understand that Saturday's coverage was also pooled."

"BBC television news recognises that recent technological developments are making the use of shared facilities an area of growing contention."

ITN, however, took a cool view of this statement; it doubts that there has been such a change and claims that, having spent much money and acquired a good deal of knowledge in recent years, it makes a mockery of competition if people simply "lift" its material.

## Rantzen need not testify in 'That's Life' case

From Arthur Osman, Dudley

A doctor failed yesterday to get Esther Rantzen, the television personality, to give evidence on his behalf in an action following a feature she wrote and produced for the BBC programme 'That's Life'.

Dr. Sachindra Prasad, of Wolverhampton, is being sued at Wolverhampton County Court today by Ensign Home Improvements, a local firm, for alleged nonpayment of a bill for work carried out at his surgery. The doctor alleges in a counter claim that the work was unsatisfactory.

Dr. Prasad had issued a witness summons against Miss Rantzen seeking her aid as an expert witness, and Judge Malcolm heard the application in chambers at Dudley, West Midlands, yesterday. BBC lawyers suggested the evidence she could give would be inadmissible. She had said that although

## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### The beast's owner told to pay up

Mr. John Dodd, a motor enthusiast who built his own 250mph supercar known as The Beast, has been ordered to pay a £5,000 fine for contempt of court, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday. The court dismissed Mr. Dodd's appeal against the fine and an order that he should also pay a costs bill estimated at a further £5,000. Last June, Mr. Dodd, of Links Road, Epsom, Surrey, was ruled to be in contempt of an earlier court order banning him from exhibiting The Beast as a Rolls-Royce. The Beast, powered by a Second World War Rolls-Royce Merlin aero engine, cost Mr. Dodd £26,000 to build. Rolls-Royce sued him for allegedly infringing its trade marks and "passing off" the car as a Rolls-Royce because it sported RR badges, radiator grill and spirit of Ecstasy mascot. Mr. Dodd was not present or represented in the court yesterday when Rolls-Royce successfully applied for an order dismissing his appeal. Mr. George Hamer, for Rolls-Royce, said Mr. Dodd had not complied with terms imposed on him for setting down his appeal.

### Accused 'tried to murder 10'

Brian Murphy, aged 27, unemployed, of Naville Park, Ballynary, Fife, was charged at Dunfermline Sheriff Court yesterday with attempting to murder 10 people, including children, in a house in Castle Avenue, Crosshill, on February 14.

Murphy, who appeared in private before Sheriff Stuart Forbes, is alleged to have wilfully set fire to the house and attempted to murder the occupants. Mr. Owen Coll, a miner, Mrs. Mary Coll and eight others. He was remanded in custody for further inquiries.

### Casino winner robbed

Mr. Aziz Tavangar, who travelled to London on Saturday to claim the £35,000 prize in the Daily Mail Casino competition to discover that hundreds of others had done likewise, returned home on Sunday to find his house ransacked and jewelry valued at more than £12,000 and two cameras stolen.

Mr. Tavangar and his family live in Fenton Road, Bournemouth, Dorset. They recently arrived in Britain from Iran.

Playboy decision

The Playboy Club of Mayfair London, and the Clermont Club yesterday abandoned their appeals against loss of licences. Mr. Richard Beckett, for the clubs told the Knightsbridge Crown Court that new licences would be sought.

### £25,000 Co-op haul

Two bogus security guards collected £25,000 from staff at a Co-operative store in New Road, Gravesend, Kent, yesterday, minutes before the genuine guards arrived. The thieves escaped.

## Laker's licence move

### The man who could help Sir Freddie fly

By Michael Bailey



Mr. Ray Colgate: Decision maker

Mr. Ray Colgate, the Civil Aviation Authority's man in charge of licensing, will be able to assess the Laker case in the weeks ahead free from political pressure, thanks largely to Sir Freddie Laker.

The authority was a Laker supporter in the early 1970s and granted him a licence for Skytrain after its predecessor, the Air Transport Licensing Board, and the Department of Trade had both refused to do so.

But the Labour Government refused to give the Laker company the necessary designation, and Sir Freddie had to fight a long battle through the courts against Mr. Peter Shore who was then Secretary of State for Trade, to win the freedom to operate his licence without political control.

One result was that Mr. John Nott introduced an Act in 1980 which ended the Government's "policy guidance" to the authority on cases such as Skytrain or a new Peoples' Airline. The authority can make its own decision on its own assessment of the economic criteria.

That is just what Mr. Colgate, aged 55, civil servant on a deputy secretary's salary, is said to be good at. Although possessed of a certain shrewdness and a capacity for modest wheeler-dealing, he is "prudent, far-seeing, and scrupulously fair", one senior airline executive says.

Airline licence hearings are held in public at the authority's circular sky-scraper off Kingsway in London, and are normally conducted by a panel of three to five. The panel is usually chaired by Mr. Colgate or Sir Neville Foulkes, his chairman, who was formerly with ICI and the British Airports Authority. He is due to retire next month. Its findings are

semi-judicial, and the result and the reasons for it are published.

In assessing whether to grant a licence the panel has to try to achieve a balance between the potentially conflicting obligations to secure a competitive industry in the interests of the consumer and a stable regime that allows the industry to flourish.

Mr. Colgate said: "We have gone partly down the same road as the Americans because we like the consumer benefits that spring from competition. But we have to be more cautious because we have far fewer airlines."

He added that it was always sad for the individuals who lost their jobs or investment when an airline collapsed, but from the industry point of view, it was more important that more substantial operators survived.

Those remarks, made before Laker collapsed, will no doubt be much in the minds of at least one of those "substantial operators": British Caledonian.

Mr. Adam Thomson, its

Chairman, has made it clear that he thinks the Laker experiment has failed, dragging down others with it and the honourable voters may be to sweep away the Laker debris rather than set the whole thing going again.

That is, of course, a self-interested view, but it is one that Mr. Colgate and his colleagues are bound to consider.

Politicians, however, may still have the last word. Whatever the authority may decide on the revocation of Laker's old licences or the granting of a new one, there is still a right of appeal to the Secretary of State.

That right has been made use of by Sir Freddie when the authority refused him a licence to Hongkong on the ground that the route would not stand more than two profitable operators. Mr. Nott reversed the decision.

In fact, Hongkong then refused Laker granting one to Cathay Pacific instead, which could be a good thing because the route has been unprofitable so far, and Sir Freddie's could have collapsed earlier had it been flying it.

A People's Airline rising phoenix-like from Skytrain's ashes is, however, a much more complex matter than a decision about who should fly to Hongkong; and even a Thatcher Government may hesitate before rushing to espouse Sir Freddie's cause again.

TOXIC WASTE PLEA

Mr. Peter Temple-Morris, Conservative MP for Leominster, yesterday demanded a public inquiry into plans to dump toxic waste at a site adjoining a hospital at Bromyard in Hereford and Worcester. He claimed that because the route has been unprofitable so far, and Sir Freddie's could have collapsed earlier had it been flying it.

Without evidence of Nationalist support (in both Local and Parliamentary Elections) MPs and the media will continue to consider that we are happy with things as they are. And nothing will be done.

Any political party which pretends to be able to deliver reform in face of a low Nationalist vote is misleading itself and the electors.

# AN OPEN LETTER

## TO ALL ELECTORS IN SCOTLAND

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**WHATEVER YOU BELIEVE**

- Whether you agree with the Lord Chancellor that the system of governing Scotland, "scarcely bears examination" and is, "absurd". (note a)
- Believe that the majority "Yes" win in the 1979 Referendum (64% poll) can no longer be ignored. (The Referendum followed on the majority Report of the Royal Commission on the Constitution in favour of a Scottish Legislature, after a four year's study of all aspects of the matter).
- Believe that Scotland should be independent, like Norway (1% unemployed) or Switzerland (nil rate) (note b)
- Believe that the present Committee on Scottish Affairs should have power to frame legislation on tax and other reforms for the "free vote" of Parliament. (A model for N. England and other parts of the U.K. — but only Scotland is in a position to give the lead).
- Believe that something must be done to counter the drain to the dominant centre of the U.K. — with the consequent "Hand-out" "Branch-Office" economy of the outlying parts.

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**REMEMBER THIS (note c)**

If you want any reform — however slight — you have no alternative but to vote Nationalist

**FOR THIS REASON**

Without evidence of Nationalist support (in both Local and Parliamentary Elections) MPs and the media will continue to consider that we are happy with things as they are. And nothing will be done.

Any political party which pretends to be able to deliver reform in face of a low Nationalist vote is misleading itself and the electors.

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The ALTERNATIVE to reform is the ever increasing drain to the centre. With the ever increasing danger that the patient will become too weak to recover.

This Open Letter is compiled and issued by Mr. Peter Thomson, Advocate, Haughhead Farm House, Uddingston, Lanarkshire. Mr. Thomson is not associated with any political party or organisation. He seeks to publicise the viewpoint that all aspects of its constitutional position of Scotland should be brought out into the open.

**NOTES:**

(a) "The Dilemma of Democracy" Lord Hailsham, Collins 1978. At Page 166.

(b) Scotland (11%) — mid 1981.

(c) Based on the results of research into the number, influence, and apparent strength of conviction of those opposed to reform.



## PARLIAMENT February 15 1982

## Labour would reopen Chatham dockyard

## Defence

If a Labour Government came to power tomorrow, it would reopen Chatham Dockyard, restore Portsmouth to present numbers and reopen Gibraltar, John Silken, Labour spokesman on defence, said during a debate on defence.

Sir Frederick Baden (Gillingham, C) who opened the debate, expressed grave concern at the "rigid constraints" imposed upon the Ministry of Defence, which are leading to a dramatic reduction in the Royal Navy's surface fleet, a lack of capacity to refit submarines, unacceptable shortfalls in the number of RAF front-line aircraft, and excessive planned reductions in the three services' personnel and their essential civilian support, all at a time when the threat facing the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation alliance has never been greater.

He said that, despite the Secretary of State's admission that the Soviet military threat continued to grow in size and quality he was making very large cuts in Britain's defence capability.

The Chatham dockyard in its constituency had been founded by Queen Elizabeth I. The area had a unique and distinguished record of service to the Government. It had built more than 500 naval vessels, including the Victoria, and had risen magnificently to the task of refitting and repairing fighting ships in peace and war.

Chatham was being completely shut down and its refitting and refueling facilities were being transferred to Devonport, although Devonport had not completed its conversion to refitting and refueling operations.

Even if there was a tremendous improvement in productivity, Devonport would not be able to deal effectively with the servicing of fleet submarines so as to ensure that the outcome would be such that necessary numbers would always be operational, even in peacetime. In no way could Devonport cope in war conditions.

It would appear that Mr. Nott was still hell-bent on carrying out the closures. Closing Chatham would mean the loss of 7,000 jobs, all Government employees. It was extremely unlikely that more than 1,000 would be offered the opportunity of transferring to other dockyards.

The closure of Chatham dockyard would be no less a disaster than the closure of the smelting plant at Invergordon. The Invergordon closure was imposed by a private company; Chatham's closure was being imposed by the Government.

The inevitable should not be said. If the sale to Australia had not yet been confirmed it should be stopped. If the Australians wanted an aircraft carrier, why not sell the Hermes, which was 20 years old and refitted fairly recently?

The Secretary of State for Defence should think again about the closure of Chatham dockyard and reverse the decision. It could put naval responses to enemies at risk and the Secretary of State should ensure that there was sufficient support for the nuclear element and for the submarines to be always operational. Devonport alone could not be relied upon to do so.

We must have a nuclear deterrent (he said) but I am convinced that to use this position as an excuse for greatly reducing the Royal Navy could be disastrous. The whole cost of Trident should not be borne entirely out of the Navy's share of the defence vote but should be shared out of the defence budget as was the case with Polaris.

Mr Richard Craxshaw (Liverpool, T) said that to cut spending on naval forces at the very time that the greatest threat from the Soviet Union was now being felt made no sense whatever.

The Soviet fleet was now probably equal to or better than Western forces, and probably well in front in submarines. Britain should not be in a position where the American fleet was not prepared to convoy British ships through, at a time when Britain's nuclear eggs in one basket when it might still be possible to update Polaris. It was possible to retain an independent deterrent because a situation could arise in which America would not want to be drawn into a war which Britain might want to act on its own.

That was not to disparage the efforts of the Americans on Britain's behalf, but he did not want to see the country in a position where the American fleet was not prepared to convoy British ships through, at a time when Britain's nuclear eggs in one basket when it might still be possible to update Polaris. It was possible to retain an independent deterrent because a situation could arise in which America would not want to be drawn into a war which Britain might want to act on its own.

The price of keeping their freedoms could be dear, but it would be nothing to the expense of the closure of the dockyard. The price of keeping their freedoms could be dear, but it would be nothing to the expense of the closure of the dockyard.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C) said there should be efforts to make the most of resources. The closure of Chatham would mean the loss of 7,000 jobs, all Government employees. It was extremely unlikely that more than 1,000 would be offered the opportunity of transferring to other dockyards.

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maintain instead efficient conventional forces which would be adequate for the country's defence without threatening economic collapse.

Britain desperately needed to reduce defence expenditure considerably and to achieve this they should renounce nuclear weapons and refuse to go ahead with the non-nuclear Trident commitment.

Sir Patrick Wall (Maidenhead, C) said that when the Government came to power it had promised to give priority to defence. It had done that, but defence must always be measured against the threat and the danger was coming in the next few years when new leaders would come into the Kremlin after the departure of Mr Brezhnev.

If everyone wanted to avoid a third world war the West must be strong enough in the next five or six years to deter possible aggression from the Soviet Union. Every effort must be put into defence, even if that meant greater sacrifices.

Dr Alan Glyn (Windsor, C) said that there were many young people in Britain who did not know what war was about and it was important to educate them to realize the dangers and recognize the importance of the Conservative Party's defence policy.

Mr John Silken, chief Opposition defence spokesman, said that Sir Frederick Borden had fought and won 10 general elections, and in each election, each time pledging the Conservative Party would keep Chatham dockyard open.

The present Conservative Party had reneged on its pledge to keep Chatham dockyard open. The Government had reneged on its pledge to keep Chatham dockyard open.

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Burden: Chatham's unique record Craxshaw: High price of freedom.

programme bloated and distorted by a single extravagant and ill-thought-out project, the Trident purchase.

Mr Francis Pym had been removed from his post as Secretary of State for Defence last year because he was ill-advised enough to act as though he believed in the Conservative Manifesto of 1979 — a grotesque error.

He fell foul of the Prime Minister and the Chancellor, not because they thought the money should be better spent on houses, schools or hospitals, but because his policy implied an increase in public expenditure by government pledged to oppose it.

Mr Pym, an obstinate man, was replaced by the present Secretary of State, Mr Geoffrey Howe, not over-burdened by a desire to keep electoral pledges. He wanted to have his nuclear cake and eat it too, and cut conventional capacity.

Annual savings on the defence vote at 1981 prices were estimated at £200m for 1982 and £250m for 1983. This meant at least 50,000 jobs lost, and 100,000 jobs lost if the Government's employment calculations, £430m in transferred payments and revenues foregone for 100,000 unemployed and £250m for 50,000 unemployed.

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had a Labour Government tomorrow the answer is yes.

Mr Baker said he had seldom heard a speech of such nonsense as that given by Sir Silken. He agreed with Sir Frederick Borden about the importance of maintaining a strategic nuclear deterrent and that the threat facing NATO had never been greater. But the motion under discussion was not about that.

Even with the fewer ships which were planned, the total number of ships at sea for the Royal Navy would be almost identical with what it had been up to now.

By abandoning the expensive mid-life modernisation which had taken up to three years to complete, and by doing more training at sea rather than ashore, a greater proportion of a ship's life would be spent at sea compared with the past.

It had been suggested that the reduction in ships would lower the nuclear threshold. On the contrary, if the Government had followed the previous course, it would have found increasingly ships, planes and tanks under armed, with inadequate fuel for training and dismantling supplies of spaces and ammunition. That would have been a futile course to continue and that would have lowered the nuclear threshold.

During 1981-82 the Ministry of Defence had spent £5,000m on British industries which was some 15 per cent more in real terms than in 1978-79. Further substantial increases were expected in 1982-83.

In 1979 the Army had been 9,000 trained adult males under arms, recruiting and discharge rates had been getting worse and pay rates were behind those in civilian life. Today figures were planned with the strength and the number of men leaving voluntarily was insignificant.

The number of aircraft available to the RAF was down, but that was the effect of changing from elderly planes like Vulcan and Canberra to the Tornados of which 385 were planned with the ground attack version already coming into service.

## Stakes high as Irish Republic's leaders prepare for TV debate

The leaders of the two main political parties in the Irish Republic will be meeting in Dublin today to prepare for tonight's live television debate, which is expected to be watched by one million people, nearly half the electorate.

As their political advisers discuss tactics for the debate, the first such election campaign encounter in the Republic's history, both leaders will be digesting the findings in a latest opinion poll which was expected yesterday to put Fianna Fail in the lead.

The general election is on Thursday. Dr Garrett FitzGerald, Prime Minister and leader of Fianna Fail, and Mr Charles Haughey, leader of the opposition Labour Party, will discuss the economy, law and order, combined with social issues, and Northern Ireland.

The stakes are high in the debate, with Dr FitzGerald probably having the most to lose. He has the advantage of an open, honest face with a slightly ruffled look about him which attracts viewers, but his penchant for displaying his excellent grasp of statistics is considered a liability. His aides say he is aware of that and no doubt he will be trying to avoid losing the viewers by dazzling them with figures.

For Mr Haughey, who has spent much of the campaign trailing in the personal popularity polls, a good performance will be a considerable boost. At his best he can be an excellent television performer, cool and sleek, although his hooded eyes and tight lips draw criticism.

There was just a touch of desperation about him yesterday as he stumped the Midlands counties of Leix and Offaly. He ended one campaign speech with the words: "I needed a bit of a morale — booster, and thank God, I got it here. God bless you all."

In the town square at Portlaoise, the Mercades, Haughey's speech, the evidence of the Republic's recently found wealth, were parked awaiting his arrival. Folk music, blasted from audio equipment positioned on a lorry festooned with posters, and a car toured the streets inviting people to leave the bars and their homes to meet the Opposition leader.

Then the sound of pipes was heard and the main street at the head of enthusiastic Fianna Fail campaign workers, shouting "Charlie, Charlie," whistling, and waving posters.

Children were everywhere, at his feet or in the arms of their parents holding them aloft so that they could see Mr Haughey before he mounted the trolley to represent the message that only Fianna Fail could provide a stable government, an end to gloom, and hope for the future.

Although the polls do not open generally until Thursday, the first votes in the general election were cast yesterday on Clare and Inishurk Islands off Co Mayo and two pensioners, the only inhabitants of Inishurk Island off Co Donegal, were entitled to vote.

A police escort took the ballot boxes on the islands of Co Mayo. On Inishurk, the two men were able to cast their votes at home because a designated officer had designated their house as a polling station.

From Richard Ford, Dublin

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## Five men accused over 'unfit meat'

Five men and a meat firm faced 80 charges when they appeared before magistrates at Bingley, Yorkshire, yesterday in the first prosecution in the North which alleged that meat from a knacker's yard was being passed off for human consumption.

Before the court were Brighouse Meats, of Ardsley Road, Brighouse; Derek Carman, of Lee Lane Cottages, Bingley; Arthur Binns, of Well Head Farm, Oxenhouse, near Keighley; Ramsey Timmins, of Stainburn Road, Workington; and his son, Stephen Timmins, of High Harrington, Workington; and David Ramsey Timmins, of Distington, near Workington.

They faced charges including concealing or conveying in the sale of knacker's meat, or conveying in the sale of an animal slaughtered in a knacker's yard and preparing for sale meat which was intended, but unfit, for human consumption. They pleaded not guilty.

Mr John Swanson, prosecution said the Timmins family were proprietors of a knacker's yard at Workington. Observations by environ-

mental health officers resulted in a van, driven by Stephen Timmins, being followed to a coach park at Morecambe.

There another van driven by Mr Binns arrived and parked alongside Mr Timmins. They exchanged vehicles and Mr Binns was followed to his premises at Oxenhouse.

Mr Swanson alleged that at 6am the next day Mr Binns drove the van to the premises of Brighouse Meats, a firm which at that time was dealing in meat for human consumption. Meat was unloaded from the van and dealt with in a clean and efficient manner by the firm's employees.

Mr Swanson said knacker's meat was sold to the pet food trade for at the most 14 pence a pound. Beef for human consumption was normally sold for 70p a pound. Therefore profits in excess of £1,000 a tonne could be made by selling knacker's meat for human consumption.

The hearing continues today.

The hearing continues today.

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## 'Hoaxers' shocked immigrants'

From Our Correspondent Nottingham

Immigrants were shocked to receive letters, apparently from the police, saying they were to be sent home under new legislation. A jury was told yesterday.

The letters were a plot by two members of the extreme right-wing British Movement to undermine the confidence of ethnic minority groups in their dealing with the police. Mr David Wilcox, for the prosecution, said that Nottingham Crown Court.

Glyn Alan Wilson, aged 35, of Oak Avenue, Blidworth, the movement's Nottinghamshire area organizer, denies seven charges of forging letters and seven charges of sending forged letters.

His alleged accomplice Philip Robert Regan, aged 22, of Laurel Road, Carlton, Nottingham, has admitted 14 charges, and is to be sentenced at the end of the trial.

Regan said he met Mr Wilson three years ago when he joined the British Movement. They decided to hoax the immigrant community of Nottingham by sending out forged letters.

The letters said: "Due to recent legislation passed by the Conservative Government, I have to inform you that your legal status has changed. You are required to report to the alien's department of the central police station, Nottingham, where documentation will take place pending repatriation."

Regan said: "Wilson obtained Nottinghamshire Police head notes and photocopied the heading on to blank sheets. Regan typed the letters."

Mr Wilcox said 81 letters were sent to Indians, Pakistanis, Malaysians and Chinese in Nottingham between May and August last year. Nineteen letters dealt with registration and the other 62 were sent to restaurants and food stores. They required the proprietors to report to the police after hygiene complaints.

The case continues today.

## 'SQUALOR' AT JAIL ATTACKED

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The report, published by the Prison Inspectorate, is quoted by the text as saying: "Conditions in the cells are deplorable and degrading."

"Groups of three have to eat and spend long hours in cells so filled with furniture that it is difficult for more than one man to move at a time," the report says. "The quality of life for prisoners 'becomes degraded to the point of being squalid'."

The text says that the Government's reply, not yet officially published, holds out little hope that conditions will be improved. Dr Stephen Shaw, a director, says: "If anyone but the Government was responsible for such squalid conditions, it would be shut down by the public health inspectors. The deplorable and degrading state of Gloucester Prison is repeated in almost every large town in the country," he added.

The body of Mr Peter Gough, aged 58, the lock-keeper who was drowned when he fell into Shipley Lock, Oxfordshire in the January floods, has been found at Marsh Lock, near Henley, a few miles away.

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## £15m for urban programme

## Wales

Wales is to receive a record £15m urban programme directed towards industrial infrastructure in view of the serious unemployment figures. Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, announced during question time in the Commons.

As an expression of his concern to remedy the situation in Wales, he said he had authorized the Welsh Development Agency to announce today (Monday) their sixth programme which would be concentrated in Mid-Glamorgan, Gwynedd, Dyfed and rural Ceredigion, areas outside the steel closure areas.

He also welcomed the announcement by the Chemical Bank, the sixth largest bank in the United States, of their decision to locate their headquarters in Cardiff, involving 350 jobs, in Cardiff. He said that this was a development of immense importance for the capital city, which would lead the way for the kind of commercial development which was so important for Wales.

On a seasonally adjusted basis the current figure of unemployment in Wales was 162,000, a rise of 9.5 per cent since May, 1979.

Mr Donald Anderson (Swansea, East, Lab), who said the appalling jobless figures clear evidence of the destruction of our manufacturing base in Glamorgan and Wales as a whole because of the monetarist policies of this Government? When will the Secretary of State admit that the rise in unemployment is a result of greater growth and an end to this tragic waste of human resources?

Mr Edwards agreed with him wholeheartedly that these figures are serious. It is an expression of that concern that I have today announced a record urban programme very much directed towards industrial infrastructure and easing the consequences of that problem. The total of £15m represents a 45 per cent increase in expenditure over last year and more than double the amount spent in 1979-80.

There are encouraging signs from the 200 inquiries and 40 allocations in the enterprise zone and a good deal of new industry is moving into these areas.

Sir Anthony Meyer (West Flint, C) said he was concerned about the damage which the Aslef strike is doing to the prospects of jobs in the railway industry in Wales, and that these industries are dependent on rail, such as coal and steel, will be ascertained from the Mr Anderson whether he agrees with the total support Mr Albert Booth, Opposition spokesman for Wales, is giving the Aslef strike?

Mr Edwards has no responsibility for the views of the Labour MP's but Sir Anthony will understand that they do not, that the strike of this kind must be greatly damaging, not just for the railway industry but for all other industries that depend upon it.

Mr Barry Jones (East Flint, Lab) said that he was concerned about the damage which the Aslef strike is doing to the prospects of jobs in the railway industry in Wales, and that these industries are dependent on rail, such as coal and steel, will be ascertained from the Mr Anderson whether he agrees with the total support Mr Albert Booth, Opposition spokesman for Wales, is giving the Aslef strike?

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generated. Did he read in The Sunday Times yesterday that Lord Marsh is advising on Nissan? Has he met Lord Marsh, and will he meet him at some time as Nissan at a future date?

Mr Edwards: I have no further information to give about the Nissan project. I have over the last few months met both the chairman and deputy chairman of Nissan. We have made it quite clear it is the company's choice of location and we do not yet know whether the company will go ahead with the project at all.

Mr Donald Coleman for the Opposition (North, Lab): The answer he has given only confirms the public view of the disgraceful unemployment situation which exists in Wales.

Mr Edwards: Last year alone, the Welsh Development Agency completed more factories than were built by the Government in Wales in three years up to 1979, and are likely to build more than were covered in that three-year period since this year. A record number of those factories were allocated in the last 12 months.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East, Lab): While I welcome the current situation which has been announced, is it the Secretary of State's assessment that there is no prospect of any substantial reduction in the level of unemployment in Wales during a reasonable future?

Mr Edwards: I think it is clear there are signs that the economy is moving now out of recession, but how long it will be before we move to a point when unemployment levels start to fall I cannot tell.

To describe some of the measures and the new investments in comfort, particularly when 350 jobs are brought to Mr Callaghan's constituency. It is understandable why we are achieving in this difficult period.

payment to the US Government and industry is expected to be of the order of £300m. The major part of the expenditure will be in dollars. The purpose of equipping Polaris with new motors is to ensure that the weapon system remains effective until the Polaris force is replaced by Trident.

The Government believes that Trident remains the best and most cost-effective option to ensure that the United Kingdom retains an independent nuclear capability well into the twenty-first century. We have therefore no intention of cancelling the Trident programme.

Lord Mayhew: Has he noted the opposition to Trident expressed this weekend by the former Navy minister, Mr Speed, and his preference for one of the cheaper alternative systems?

To press ahead with Trident to completion will require over the years much wider support in Parliament and the country than it is likely to get.

Viscount Trenchard: We would all like a cheaper alternative system. Having taken part in and

attended to the examination of the search for an alternative system which would be an independent deterrent into the next century. I do not believe that any one has yet been suggested, whether by Mr Speed or anyone else.

Even the questions asked in the opinion polls show clearly that the majority of the public are in favour of the maintenance of an independent deterrent.

Elgin Marbles to stay in Britain

The Government does not intend to return the Elgin Marbles to Greece, the Earl of Avon, a Lord in Waiting, said.

Lord Jenkins of Putney (Lab) said that what was called return and restitution of cultural property had engaged increasing

attention in recent years, mainly in UNESCO.

Many countries (he went on) are asserting a right to have returned to them what they regard as part of their cultural heritage and several countries are making arrangements for the return of many objects.

Will he seek to ensure that the museum authorities in this country are aware of the fact that in this matter, not adopt an indefensible policy of "what we have we hold"?

The Earl of Avon: I am sure that our museums would not adopt an indefensible policy and would be aware of the fact that the international collections in our museums and galleries are of great value to scholarship and a profound contribution to international cultural understanding. I do not believe that the break-up of such collections would be a desirable objective.

Lord Cottesloe (C): If it had not been for Lord Elgin the Elgin Marbles would probably no longer exist.

The Earl of Avon: When Lord

## Peer seeks change of emphasis in education

Firmly embedded in Britain was the idea that the would-be administrator should eschew science training in favour of the humanities. Lord Add (Lab) said during a debate on the first report of the Select Committee on Science and Technology on Science and Government. This was the case in most of the industrial countries which were Britain's competitors and this country was feeling the effects.

The social attitudes on which they rested were slow to change. It could and must be put right, he said, by a series of changes in Civil Service and educational policies and perhaps in politics as well it was going to take time.

Meanwhile (he went on) we must do all we can to mitigate the effects of our present educational and administrative deficiencies. That is why this report is important and why I hope that its recommendations will be speedily accepted and put into operation.

Lord Zuckerman said the advanced passenger train never have got off the ground but for the ability of the central advisory council on science and technology, established soon after the then Mr Harold Wilson came to office, to use its muscle to redeploy resources which the Treasury had already agreed on.

Oil and gas exploration, while directly the concern of and mainly the department of the Treasury, had had to be constantly informed about. The central council also dealt with this.

Elgin in 1801 to 1804 saved the Marbles from Greece there was a question of them being irreparably damaged.

Lord Stothard, for the Opposition: The British Museum is careful to preserve part of world culture as the Parthenon.

Lord Tringham (C): If Lord Jenkins' suggestion were carried out it would mean that London Bridge would have to be returned from America.

The Earl of Avon: I leave it to the House whether it prefers to keep the Marbles or to have London Bridge back (laughter).

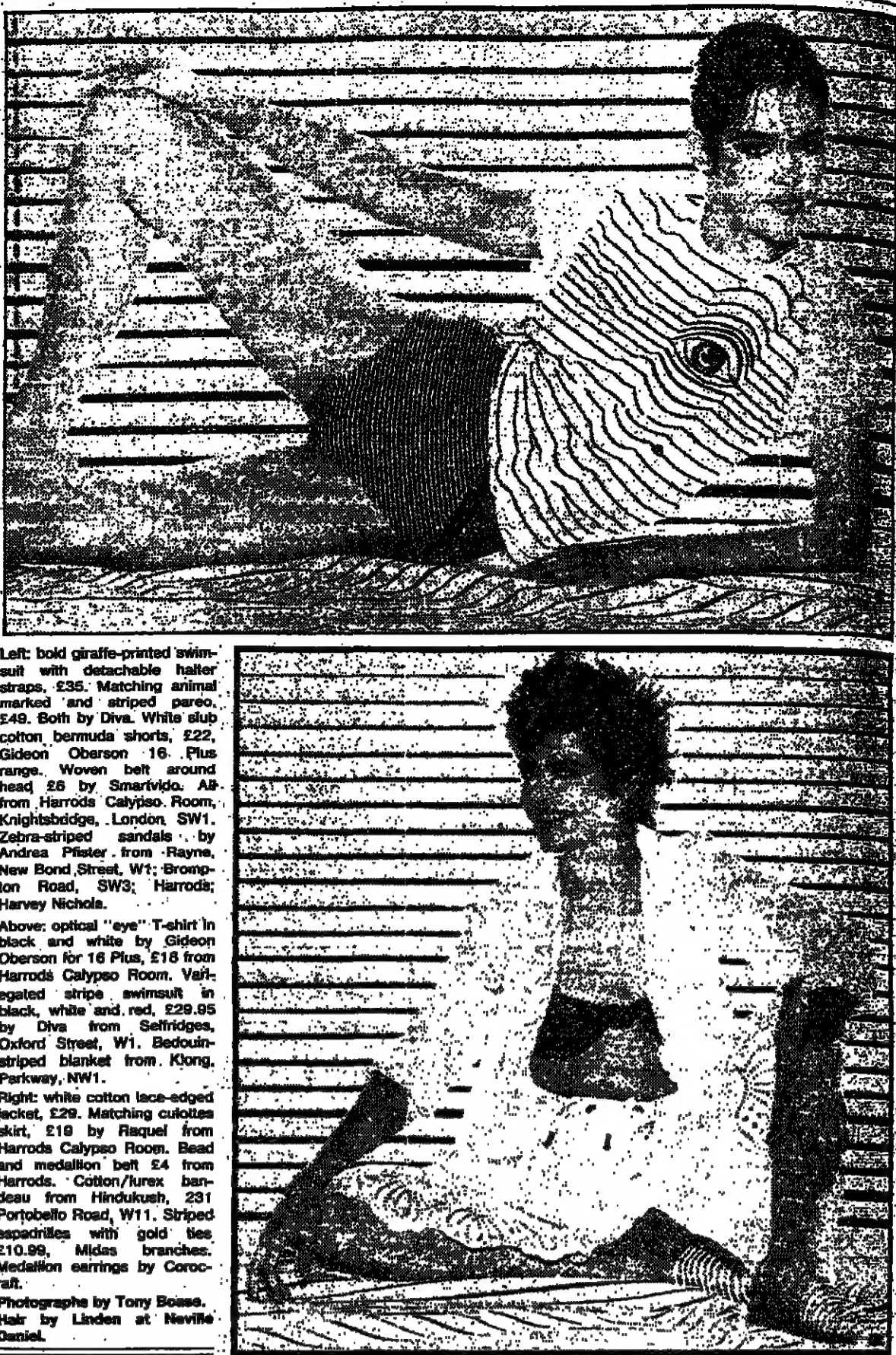
Lord Fletcher (Lab): If we were to part with the Marbles it would lead to a great many demands from other countries for the return to those other countries of the invaluable collections in the British Museum.

The Earl of Avon: The Minister of Culture in Greece, Madame Marina Mercouri, will bear his remarks in mind.

## New Polaris motors will cost £300m

## Lords Questions



Photo  
Habitat  
Diversity

another new look. The children's casual clothes and the practical babywear was of high a standard.

The great divide between the image-makers and the mass-production merchandise sold to the Debenhams Group, John Lewis and others is reflected in the export figures. Only 1 per cent of the item total is made up of the glamorous swimwear, and just 5 per cent in sheer, according to Hanna Weiss of the Trade Ministry. The fastest-growing clothing section for fashion exports is actually men's underpants.

I wonder whether the Israelis should care so much that their fashion has an image, when the Delta Textile Company is churning out all the prestigious Pierre Cardin briefs? What's in a name? Or perhaps the country that made the desert bloom on an ink of a way of weaving Jerusalem's golden magic into our

## House of Lords

## Use of 'Hansard' by Lord Denning criticized

of the Trade Union and Labor Relations Act, 1947 (4) that the appellants were entitled to immunity from liability to be terminated under section 12 of the 1947 Act;

But at the interlocutory stage, the judge had to follow the evidence given by the House in *American Cyanamid v. Ethicon* (1975) AC 396, 407, and ask himself whether or not (1) there was a serious question to be tried. (2) and (3) that the 1974 Act as issued (2) and (3) that the House in *American Cyanamid* held, but not without serious misgivings that there was a serious issue to be tried.

On issue (2) the Justice Dillon was in agreement in holding that the defendants were acting in contemplation of furtherance of trade dispute; and neither had

The present appeared to present a classic instance of a trade dispute arising out of a job security in a period of high unemployment.

On issue (3) his Lordship reviewed the relevant legislation agreed with the Justice Dillon that the likelihood of the defendants establishing at the trial that they were entitled to immunity from the act was great; the evidence disclosed was very high.

His Lordship agreed for good reasons that the strength of the

## Standard of proof in reviewing disposal of assets

The Court of Appeal order would be made a *res judicata* and that of Justice Dillon restored.

**Judges:** Lord Fraser, Lord Scarman, Lord Bridge and Lord Brennan agreed.

**Solicitors:** Brian Thompson & Partners, Stammers; Nutt &

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THE ARTS

Galleries

# Landseer: the brutal sentimentalist

Sir Edwin Landseer  
Tate Gallery

Man Proposes —  
God Disposes:  
Prints by Sir Edwin  
Landseer and his  
Followers

Christopher Wood Gallery

Engravings after Sir  
Edwin Landseer and  
Others

Malcolm Innes Gallery

It can come as quite a surprise — or quite a shock — to see for the first time the original of a painting one knows well in reproduction. I recall the first time I set eyes on Landseer's *The Monarch of the Glen*, in Edinburgh appropriately enough, as part of the *Discovery of Scotland* show in 1978. Though my own childhood home had been firmly steeped in such "Victorian monstrosities" I had enough elderly relatives who did not feel self-conscious about Victorian prints on their walls, and I can recall at least three versions of the *Monarch* — just the sort of thing Christopher Wood has in his show of prints by Landseer and his followers *Man Proposes — God Disposes* (15 Motcomb Street, until February 26) or Malcolm Innes in his show of Engravings after Landseer at the Walton Gallery, 172 Walton Street, also until February 26.

But the real thing is a very different matter. Who would have thought, to begin with, that it would be so large? And who could guess from even the finest contemporary engraving at the colour scheme, the quality of the paint? Especially since in this case neither is very appealing: behind the giant stag — rendered, oh yes, with considerable skill and a wealth of precise observation — there is a very great deal of hazy mountain slope and purplish-blue cloud, painted so broadly, indeed coarsely, as to be devoid of all interest. Unless, that is, you can stretch a point and see Landseer as some kind of precursor of Pop Art. It makes one wonder if some of Landseer's bigger, later works were not painted primarily for the sake of the large reproduction market (Landseer was one of the first painters really to get the measure of that, perhaps because he came from a family of commercial engravers), rather than the engravings being an incidental result of the pictures' success.

Maybe we are not being quite fair to Landseer in this particular case. His means were at least generally well adapted to his ends, and in the large-scale Landseer show at the Tate (until April 12) we are seeing *The Monarch of the Glen* at eye-level, when it was originally conceived to be seen from below at a distance, as part of the decor for the House of Lords refreshment room. But the

fact remains that for all its fame as an image (perhaps partly because of it), *The Monarch of the Glen* is not a pleasing painting. And its unpleasant qualities are shared by a disturbing number of other works in the show. If we want to revalue Landseer we cannot do it merely by saying what a jolly good painter, what an excellent technician the chap was. Sometimes he was, sometimes he was not — to such an extent that it is often difficult to believe that the same man painted adjacent works.

These matters are of course quite separate from our reactions to the subjects the technique was used on. There is altogether too much, too explicit, carnage of deer, birds, otters, bulls and the rest of the animal kingdom for most modern taste, and the show should offer the anti-blood sports lobby a field-day. We can dismiss this as part of the period, we can find in it a possible reflection of Landseer's own mental and emotional disorders, we can even allege (though on it seems to me shaky evidence) that the paintings were painted to disgust us. But, however you approach it, the problem still has to be dealt with.

This no doubt sounds curious of a painter whose main modern reputation is for extreme sentimentality faced with anything resembling a cute little, or even a cute big, doggy. But sentimentality and brutality are often opposite sides of the coin. Quite possibly the same man that drooled over anthropomorphized pets could go out and slaughter their untamed relations with complete abandon. There is plenty of evidence in Queen Victoria's *Journal of Our Life in the Highlands*, even after bowdlerization by Arthur Helps, that the virtuous Prince Albert loved to do just that. It was only natural that a court favourite should take his standards uncritically from the highest in the land. Whether that makes for good art is more arguable.

So we may reasonably suggest that the case for a wholesale upward revaluation of Landseer is not yet completely made out, and this show gets us not much further towards it. But it does at least make clear that Landseer cannot, either, be just written off. There are some extraordinarily accomplished pictures at the Tate, and some extraordinarily beautiful ones. Some of the latter are indeed among his most characteristic productions. The portraits of specific animals, especially of the Royal household, are nearly always free from the vagueness, coarseness and sentimentality of the famous story-telling pictures like *Dignity and Impudence of High Life* and *Low Life*. *Macaw, Love Birds, Terrier and Spaniel Puppies*, belonging to Her Majesty (1839), for example, is a masterpiece of its kind, suggesting exactly the character of each animal and binding them together into a fresh and vivid colour composition, while the *Pair of Brazilian Monkeys* poised on a pineapple, fascinatedly watching a wasp (also, inevitably, "the property of Her Majesty"), has that wonderful ease and economy that marks much of Landseer's work in his earlier, happier years.

His way with intricately articulated compositions, even to the last, remains remarkable: he never

many figures and subsidiary incidents, it is only very occasionally that, as in *Rest Day in the Wilderness* (1868), the eye cannot take in the essentials at a glance and the mind work out the details later. There are also some isolated things which are unexpectedly appealing. *Coming Events Cast Their Shadow Before Them* is interesting less for the battle between the stags that it implies as for its extraordinarily subdued blue-grey colour scheme which makes it look more Nazarene than English. The handful of caricatures shows a very expert and witty observant Landseer. And there is one astonishing piece, *Charles Sheridan with Mrs Richard Sheridan and Child* (1847), left unfinished because of its subject's death, which gives evidence of how dashing Landseer sketched out his designs and applied the under-painting.

Landseer ended up not rivaling Turner (in a very different way) for the title of first of the Impressionists, but rather figuring within his staid Victorian garb, as the last of the full-blown Romantics. Though we have tended to think of him as the epitome of everything we dislike about the Victorians, this show makes abundantly clear that his artistic impulses and criteria all refer back to an earlier era. The affinity with Sir Walter Scott (subject of an excellent portrait) has frequently been noted, and it can be seen only in the earlier period pieces like the *Chevy Chase* pictures and *Hawking in the Olden Time*, the same kind of full-blooded, unself-conscious Romantic spirit runs on to the last, even if overlaid by a lot of over-smooth painting technique.

It is perhaps related also to his later taste for odd symbolism, in pictures like *The Baptismal Font* (exhibited in the year of his death, 1872) where the sheep are deployed around a font curiously sited in the middle of a field with a proto-surrealist literalness which recalls German Romantic painting. Certain it is that, just when you think you have got Landseer taped, something else crops up to confuse simple formulations and set you thinking and reacting all over again. Nor must I forget to mention that the ins and outs of his career are admirably (if no doubt to some over-enthusiastically) charted in Richard Ormond's *Final Product Catalogue*.

Catalogue is basically what it is, but it exemplifies the most ingenious solution yet to the problem of ensuring a longer life for a quite expensive book (£16 hardback from Thames and Hudson, though only £5.95 paperback at the exhibition) than merely the duration of the exhibition. Everything is illustrated with all necessary supportive details, but the pictures are arranged as though primarily illustrations of Mr Ormond's scholarly yet readable biographical-critical text. Unless you looked carefully, you would never realize that this was anything but a superior (very superior) coffee-table book. Agree or disagree with its conclusions about the interest and importance of Landseer today, it is well worth getting and keeping on its own merits, filling a noticeable gap in studies of nineteenth-century British art.

John Russell Taylor



Freshness, ease and economy: "Macaw, Love Birds, Terrier and Spaniel Puppies"; and "Pair of Brazilian Monkeys"



Concerts

## Powerful artistry

Philharmonia/  
Groves

Bletchley

Hearing Rachmaninov's second piano concerto is much like revisiting adolescence, but at least Ian Hobson makes it an intelligent exercise. This was the concerto with which he won the Leeds competition last year, and he clearly recognizes the potential offensiveness of self-indulgent sentimentality produced to order. On Sunday, playing the work again with the Philharmonia under Sir Charles Groves, he bared not his soul but his artistry.

In the slow movement, particularly, it was an unusual pleasure to hear attacks sitting bolt upright on the beat, not lagging behind in forced effusion of emotion. And, without denying the music's nature, he kept it in control with the determination of his left hand, the hard, mobile, accompaniment that so often saved as a counterweight of energy and in the finale led to some almost Bach-like passages of strongly figured counterpoint.

This powerful and powerful performance came halfway through the closing concert of the Milton Keynes February Festival, which is doing something to stake a claim for artistic enterprise in that

blueprint for a city. Since there is still no concert hall and no theatre, the Philharmonia were accommodated in the great hall of a sports centre in Bletchley, although their dealings with Mr Hobson were not made to seem more competitive as a result; indeed, they were gentle in support and generous in the leads they offered.

The concerto had been immediately preceded by a work commissioned by the festival for the occasion, *Wild Decembers* by Elisabeth Lutyens. Although the title comes from Emily Brontë's poem "Remembrance", Lutyens has said that her piece is not at all intended as an illustration of the text, and certainly there is a laconic brevity and independence in the music that rather contrasts with the poet's prostration over a dead lover.

The scoring for brass, percussion and strings also unifies aspects of its austere and grandeur, especially when the ensembles are so often used in isolation and even though there is a fair bit of wintry writing for high string harmonics and glittering chimes.

But apart from thus declaring its own ambience, the piece achieves little, and is also quite odd in its wholesale repetitions.

Paul Griffiths

Alicia de Larrocha

Festival Hall

The Festival Hall no doubt would have been fuller on Sunday afternoon if Alicia de Larrocha had played Spanish music. As it was she chose Beethoven, Schumann and Chopin, stripping all three of hazy romantic nostalgia and transplanting them into the clearer, brighter and often fiercer light of her own land. Her liking for sharp-cut contours was immediately apparent in Beethoven's first set of Bagatelles, played with exceptional tautness of rhythm as well as clarity of texture, and with unfailing relish of their quips and quirks. Her take-it-or-leave-it pungency was also Beethoven. But in the lyrical No 6 in D, her tempo was too fast for the music to speak with the requested intimacy.

Moving on to Beethoven's late A flat Sonata she at once established the first movement's calm in a liquid flow of gleaming arabesque, and uncharacteristically took the second movement as an

*allegro moderato* as if determined not to make it the rage over a lost penny often heard. The *Arioso* and *Fugue* were played with a commitment all the more moving for utter simplicity, clarity and directness. The music was deep sentiment, but not a trace of the sentimental.

Nothing in Schumann's *Humoreske* was lovelier than her melting into its closing B flat major song. There were moments elsewhere when urgency of feeling found faster and louder outlet than the composer probably intended. But the reading brought striking revelations, not least in the inner parts and details of contrapuntal imitation of which he was so proud. She emphasized the music's imaginative daring, giving the whole structure a rare cohesion and feeling of inevitability.

Whether Chopin's *Andante spianato* and *Grande Polonaise* needed such forceful projection remains a moot point, but it was certainly exciting.

Joan Chissell

Theatre

## Dreadful conviction

The Treat

ICA

Pam Gems's new play is about sex, and particularly how men view and abuse women sexually. Imagining the generally neutral opinion on the subject is possible, and objectivity on the offensive nature of much of the action can be sustained by regarding the play as a very pointed jest. It is often funny. But that would be missing the value of the offensiveness, and that would be ignoring the gruesome aptness of the final thrust of the metaphor.

The *Treat* takes place in a French brothel. For those who found the sexual encounters of *La Ronde* exhausting when spread out over an evening, Pam Gems has multiplied the sexual occasions but compacted them for a lunchtime performance. It would be difficult to count the encounters, but the sexual increases as each of her three whores takes yet another man off stage where cries of pain emerge as often as not.

From the first, the production by La Ronde captures the grotesque atmosphere of an exercise by a feminist Marquis de Sade. As the house pimp (Tim Stern) enters with the first client, the women rise, point and bare their breasts. Timothy Spall, in the first of several comically vicious characterizations, examines them like horse flesh: he crushes their breasts, looks at their teeth and slaps their flanks, finally ordering a whore dressed as a little girl.

There are more fantasies fulfilled, with the actresses Frances Barber, Tracy Boden and Jenny Galloway obligingly taking on the guises of man, client's sister and bride. The parade of men is not entirely made up of monsters, but most are buying the women in anger, and woe and bruises appear on their bodies. A special celebration is planned for the

end of the day, with a party for the mayor, and for a while the question is whether all the whores will live until then.

The cruelty of the imagery is regularly leavened by jokes, and a strained communication between the women allows them to develop as characters. Mr Davis has recruited an assembly of extras that gives a feeling of exceptional lavishness to the production. What is worrying, apart from the nightmarish conviction of the play, is that if Pam Gems is right about men then her play will go some way to satisfying their (or our) hatred and the ironies of her design will lose to lasciviousness.

Ned Chaillet

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## Ambassador of the New World

The American baritone William Parker is currently touring Europe as winner of the 1979 International American Music Competition, an annual event open in turn to pianists, vocalists and violinists of any age, sex or nationality, with the promotion of twentieth-century American recital music its special aim.

Apart from Brahms's Four Serious Songs and a single Faure setting aptly chosen to exemplify roots in long-demanding programme was accordingly wholly New World. It proved him a maturely assured ambassador as warm and mellow in tone (particularly in the middle and lower registers) as in feeling, and with a shapely line only momentarily marred by a few over-anxiously attacked notes in Brahms at the outset and by understandable tiredness towards the end in the taxing quasi-instrumental exposure of *Motets* by John Harbison. Barber's *Melodies* passages best revealed his lyrical grace, while graphic storytelling in tales of the Civil War by Ned Rorem and Ives left no doubt that he has the

ring and colour for opera too.

Though in a different league, Elizabeth Page's flexible, flute-like soprano could be very pretty when in tune (it was not always) in silvery upper reaches. Her expressive range was limited by insufficient variety of colour and shortage of breath for intensity or sweep. But there were many moments of charm in an artfully chosen programme of lighter old Italian, German, English and French favourites, with characterization at its bravest in Poulenc's *Fiancailles pour rire*.

In 250th anniversary salute to Haydn the Cristofori Ensemble played his three trios for flute, cello and piano on period instruments of which Christopher Kite's fortepiano (a modern reproduction of a 1784 Stein) was particularly eloquent as well as superbly in balance. Barber's over-insistent, its intimately gleaming tone blended perfectly with Peter Davies's cooing flute and Caroline Brown's gut-strung cello, while closely matched perceptively musical phrasing unified the

ensemble still more. All praise to this group for conveying so much of the music's romance, its surprise and its brilliantly fragile a sound-world.

Yvan and Laurence Chiffolleau, a French brother-and-sister cello and piano duo, set their program with such urgent vitality that broke a string and sometimes went off pitch in a sonata by Beethoven's A major Sonata. More relaxed after the interval in Schubert's "Fingerring" and Schumann's Five Pieces in Folk-style, the cello left no doubt as to how persuasively he could make his instrument sing and speak even if his phrasing sometimes seemed to lose momentum in the more breath and continuity of line.

Approaching classical and romantic works alike as ripe fruit from which the maximum juice had to be squeezed, the German guitarist Andreas Herzau many times defeated his own end with uneven fingerwork as well as unstylely self-indulgent rhythm.

Joan Chissell

## Dexter joins Mermaid

John Dexter has joined the Mermaid Theatre as joint Artistic Director with Bernard Miles and Josephine Wilson. The move, which came two days before the opening of his production of *The Portage to San Cristobal de A.H.* at the Mermaid tomorrow, was forecast on the Arts Page at the turn of the year.

Dexter will now divide his time mainly between the Metropolitan Opera in New York and the Mermaid. The next play that he is likely to direct for the Thames-side theatre will be Ibsen's *Lille Eyolf*, an indication that the Mermaid in future will be paying quite a lot of attention to the European classical repertoire. Lord Miles, welcoming John Dexter's appointment yesterday, said: "We are both working-class boys. That is probably why we get on so well together."

Schubert's *Grande Sonate*, D 617, is little known, except to duettists, but it serves to demonstrate the beautifully relaxed ensemble and warmly cultivated tone that Vivienne and Dirk Kellback could achieve with four hands at one piano. There was playing of real character, too, in Brahms's *Variations on a Theme of Schumann*, Op 23, although there seems no way to prevent it sounding like a reduction of an orchestral work.

The subtitle of Werner Heider's *Locomobile*, written in 1977 specially for the Kellback Duo, is "Dance music for seven-night machine, for piano, twenty fingers." A violent dance it would be, for this single movement is pungently dissonant and agitated, jazzy in a rather obvious way yet incorporating some real discoveries about the further possibilities of the four-handed medium.

Max Harrison

Dance

Linda Gibbs

The Place

After about 15 years with London Contemporary Dance Theatre, Linda Gibbs has used a sabbatical leave to put together a solo programme, given its first London performance at The Place this past weekend. Although much of her leave was spent in the United States, she has returned with a new experience, she has turned with only one exception to colleagues from LCDT for her choreography, making it less of a departure than might be expected from the title, *Leaving Place*.

The linking theme, in fact, seems rather more about the difficulty of doing so. It is only in the last of her seven numbers, *Go for it*, that the dance builds much impetus. The choreography by Robert North to music from Brahms's first string sextet, and really sets her moving about the stage with a brisk gaiety that is infectious in its effect.

Robert North's music is altogether better than the first, with a dance sketch by Janet Smith that amusingly contrasts idleness and vigour, and a piece by Siobhan Davies, to Britten's *Mazurka Elegiac*, which epitomizes, in its juxtaposition of assertive and tentative or nervous gestures, the emotional dilemma that seems to underlie the programme.

The new pieces in the first half are another solo by North, rather more this time, to music from Samuel Barber's *Adagio for Strings*, and a couple of pleasant but inconclusive little dances set by Anthony van Laast to music by Miles Davis and Glenn Miller. The only meaty number before the intermission is the prologue, a repeat of the *Three Solos* which Gibbs created for herself in 1978, showing off her all-round skill in three contrasting costumes, but, unfortunately, without fully matching variety of moods.

The use of spoken words between the dances, to provide continuity during costume changes, is not a bad idea in principle but needs a more rigorous choice if it is to avoid being an embarrassing let-down.

John Percival

Television

## Tragedy of ambition

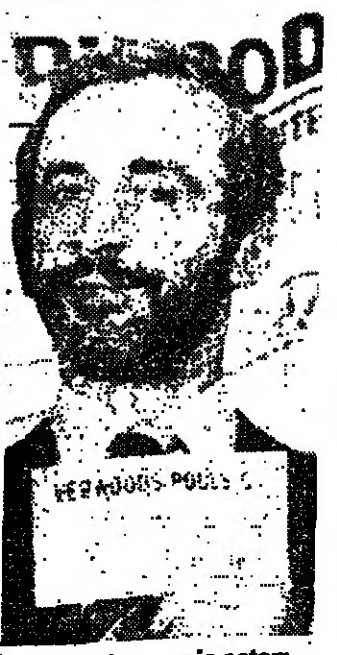
Scientists since the Renaissance have cut corners in time or broken conventions of enquiry in order to beat a great rival in the field or to ensure that their theories are of practical use as early as possible; many who fail are never found out, others justify bending the rules by success. But Martin Cline blew it. A brilliant head of haematology at UCLA and the subject of David Dugan and Oliver Morse's film for Horizon (BBC2), Cline apparently had no rivals in the field of gene-transference as a possible treatment for diseases of the blood; there was no race for a Nobel Prize; he could have taken his time.

And yet in attempting, secretly, to transfer human genes into the bloodstream of another human being he not only acted against the recommendations of the Human Subjects Protection Committee in Los Angeles — which, on the advice of leading molecular biologists, considered Cline's experiments on mice insufficient to humans premature and possibly dangerous; he also ignored guidelines laid down by Washington and failed to inform his hosts at the Haddassah Hospital in Jeru-

salem that he had done so. They in turn felt their trust had been abused, yet the Israeli Human Subjects Protection Committee itself had taken his animal data on trust and failed to consult its Californian counterpart; presumably it too was excited by the chance to spring a spectacular surprise upon the world.

The experiment failed: the (anonymous) patient was unharmed but neither were her chances of survival notably increased. Nothing had been proved. Back on the West Coast, the story of Cline's over-eagerness broke in the *Los Angeles Times*; his files were tampered with out of hours, he lost the headship of the department and all funds for future research. Elegant and persuasive, he is still teaching there, and he talks, of course, very well. Not even Horizon's use of melodramatic music and stage reconstructions could diminish a tragedy of intelligence and ambition, clearly and fairly told. Repeated next Sunday, as usual, strongly recommended.

If *Dead Ernest* (Central) is anything to go by, the British Section of Heaven has cheerfully downgraded in the 35 years since Robert Morse and David Niven arrived there in *A Matter of Life and Death*. There is more than a touch of *Hi-de-Hi* about the red-coats and sky-blue blazers favoured by Archangels Derek and Doreen, not to mention the gates closed to repartee where once Powell and Pressburger had called up a chaste Art Deco dream. But then *Dead Ernest* has been devised by John Stevenson and Julian Roach as a sitcom — in which Andrew Sachs, playing a school-teacher from Swindon killed by a champagne cork between receiving a huge pool of win and spending a naughty afternoon with Miss North Sea Oil, can escape the curse of success as Manuel in *Fawlty Towers*. As such, it is corny and joke-stuffed, but reasonably good fun. Sachs is not merely a very funny man but a highly inventive comic actor born to play parts like Gogol's Government Inspector and Ibsen's Peer Gynt. Who will give him the chance?



Inventive comic actor: Sachs in "Dead Ernest"

Michael Ratcliffe

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Four voices from the West: Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was President Carter's national security adviser, begins a major re-examination of the state of the North Atlantic alliance

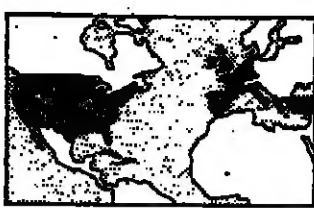
## The key question Poland poses for the West

The events in Poland are pregnant with international consequences and they require a serious and long-term response. In shaping our policy, Americans must focus not only on what is happening, but also on what is likely to happen within Poland itself, but bear in mind at all times the broader European dimension as well.

I sense in what is happening now — and not just because of Poland, but because of Afghanistan, and, less immediately and directly, earlier because of South Yemen and Ethiopia — that a significant shift is occurring in our mutual perceptions and in our attitudes, and that a series of commitments is being taken that may prove to be lasting and may in turn be described by historians some years hence as involving one of the fundamental turns, one of those basic crossroads, in the American-Soviet relationship which then generate commitments that endure for a long period of time. We may, in brief, be witnessing a rekindling of the Cold War.

Even short of that somewhat ominous prospect, I think we are justified in saying that the foreign consequences of the events in Poland are revealing another historically significant reality, namely that the prevailing conditions in Europe are beginning to outlive the post-Second World War arrangements, the post-Second World War states of mind.

The structural crisis of the Soviet system is matched by progressive dilution of Western cohesion and perhaps even by the fragmentation of Western unity. It should be the purpose of American policy, in my judgment, to try to create conditions in which peaceful accommodation in Poland again becomes more likely, so that East-West accommodation becomes more likely



TROUBLED ALLIES 1

as well. In that context we stand a greater chance of preserving Western unity.

I believe that our response so far has been adequate in a limited, negative sense. That is to say, we have made it clear that there are certain punitive costs, particularly for the Soviet Union, for what has transpired. But our policy in a broader sense has been inadequate, for it has not taken fully into account the need to use whatever leverage we have to maximize the prospects for positive change in Poland and for better East-West accommodation.

In my view, therefore, we need to think more systematically about the need to combine a punitive response to the probability that the conditions in Poland will worsen with genuine incentives to Moscow to consider a change of course in a more positive direction.

For most East and West Europeans, to a far greater extent than most Americans realize, the historical legacy — and I speak of the historical legacy, and not of the legal precision — of the 1945 Yalta agreements is that they created and legitimized the division of Europe into two systems of condominium. The disassociation of the United States from the legacy of Yalta would be a historically significant step, particularly at this stage.

I was struck that when this issue was raised by President Mitterrand in Europe, and by myself

recently, it evoked a very strong and sensitive Soviet reaction. The renunciation by the United States of the Yalta legacy — and this should not be read as meaning I wish to renounce the Helsinki agreements — on the grounds that the conditions of Yalta no longer exist in Europe, that Europe has regained its cohesion and organic unity, would have a significant impact on the present context when, implicitly at least, to many East and West Europeans, the Soviet role in Poland seems to be derived from the legacy of Yalta.

The American response to martial law in Poland has been designed to increase the cost to the Soviets of the continued absence of accommodation of intensified repression, and I have strongly supported it. However, in my judgment, it needs to be matched by a positive programme which conveys to the Soviets as well as to our Allies the tangible benefits of increased accommodation, reconciliation, and then progress on the East-West front.

Here I believe our policy has been particularly deficient. It gives the Soviets no incentive to change course, and it makes the West Europeans less likely to support us.

There are three areas in which a more positive attitude could be tangibly expressed. President Reagan in his first speech announcing sanctions referred obliquely to the possibility of a larger and more sustained programme of economic aid to Poland. I believe this needs to be repeated and made more tangible. I believe this is an area in which the West Europeans could be very cooperative, for their stake in East-West trade could be protected if there were progress towards reconciliation.

In that context, larger

East-West initiatives designed to stabilize the economic conditions in central Europe could also make political progress more likely. A comprehensive economic package needs to be shaped and postulated. It needs to be presented as part of an alternative way of coping with existing difficulties.

Secondly, I think it is very important to underline our commitment to and willingness to participate in more comprehensive arms control talks. This means in particular a return to the table on SALT II and the public exposition of how the Reagan Administration wishes to renegotiate SALT II. You will recall that the Carter Administration was fatally flawed.

The question is what needs to be done, in its judgment, to improve it, presumably in a fashion that is still negotiable with the Soviets. We need to make credible our commitment, in other words, to the idea that we are prepared at this stage of history, genuinely and seriously to engage in a constructive arms control talks.

Thirdly (and of this I have to speak in a somewhat oblique and elusive fashion, because it is premature to be precise) we need to start thinking out loud as to how and in what respects both the character of the two alliance systems and the relationship between them ought to be changed. The fact of the matter is that both Nato and the Warsaw Pact are the products of the conditions that prevailed in the late 1940s and early 1950s. They endured largely in an unchanged form during the two subsequent decades of détente.

But if they are, so to speak, the military superstructure for certain basic political and social realities of the late 1940s and the 1950s — and if these social



## Wanted: an old style incomes policy

by John Grant, MP

The Social Democrats are the party of incomes policy. That was my view when I joined, and still is. But worthy intentions are no substitute for action and the search for a policy which is fair, workable and acceptable is inevitably proving anguished and tortuous.

What is more disturbing, however, is that the proposed options so far declared and debated have been too few. That position can and must be changed if the party's radical aspirations for a more equal society and a fair distribution of rewards are to be adequately met.

The Conservative Government, covertly, has its pay policy of sorts. It is called unemployment. Fear of the dole queue has curbed both strikes and pay levels. It is crude, unjust and self-defeating for a nation in desperate need of restored economic fortune.

Labour's position was bluntly summarized recently by NUR leader Mr Sid Weighell. He told his members: "On this matter at least, where the TUC leads the party follows." He added that their proposals for rigorous price controls and nothing on wage costs "is a prescription for bankruptcy, closures and unemployment on a scale far greater than hitherto."

Yet that is precisely the state of the party's counter-inflation policy at the present time. Mr Weighell is right enough. Sadly, though, he is spitting in the Bernina wind. Labour has abandoned incomes policy and the best he can hope for is some cobbled-up pretence to hoodwink public opinion in an election run-up.

Even so, his words illustrate the urgent necessity for the Social Democrats to broaden their own approach. The emergent assumption that there can be no real prospect of agreement on this contentious issue between a future Alliance Government, management and the unions should not continue to go unchallenged. It is a belief that is bolstered by the oft-repeated arguments that the last Government's social contract was an unmitigated flop and that the prices and incomes policy of the sixties was similar exercises in futility. Such views, to say the least, oversimplify.

Yet the understandable result is the concentration among Social Democrats on safety-first counter-inflation arrangements that will require neither unions nor management to deliver. Hence the urge to opt for a wage inflation tax or for the scheme for a new brand of arbitration. Neither plan should be lightly dismissed. Their authors are distinguished economists, both far short of a genuine policy for incomes. Even so, the wage inflation tax, in particular, may yet prove to be essential if the cynics and doubters are proved correct and the unions, especially, shun a more socially just design.

That, though, should not be our starting point. First, we should examine with more determination than is yet apparent, the case for a return to a more traditional prices and incomes policy. There is surely no need for Social Democrats to apologize for seeking to attack the most objectionable features of unfettered free collective bargaining — inflationary wage deals based on industrial muscle and inefficient and harmful bargaining structures and practices.

The past should be placed in more accurate perspective. The Prices and Incomes Board helped to restrain inflation in the sixties, pin-

pointed the need for changed bargaining structures, exposed the inefficient, even anarchic, state of parts of British industry. It was bedevilled by the economic crisis around it but through hard-headedness and tenacity upon. Later, the social contract gave the unions far too much, too soon. Management was excluded. The scene was set early on for the unhandled later stages. Political instability and industrial cowardice scuppered it.

Yet there were hopeful signs, even in the grim winter of discontent. The joint statement *The Economy, The Government and Trade Union Responsibilities* was a landmark. The document *A Better Way*, which I drafted, set firm pro-incomes policy and was publicly backed by 12 senior union leaders, 10 of them TUC General Council members. Only one has since retired.

The suggested norm would follow an assessment of national resources available for investment, public spending and consumption. The criteria for over-the-norm

'Decentralization must not become an easy SDP slogan, to be applied as a remedy irrespective of the illness'

rises would probably include low pay, productivity, labour shortage and restructuring. Employment creation could well be added. Public and private sector alike would be tackled. The dubious virtues of the market economy for private sector wage bargaining may satisfy the Labour Left and the present Tory Government. But leaving the private sector to its own devices in an expanding economy could once more prove grossly inflationary, fueling public sector wage demands through comparability.

In all of this, it is important not to regard incomes policy as the sole, or even main, weapon against inflation. Yet it remains a crucial element. There is, indeed, an alternative way of the Tory-Labour scramble. It is not unduly ambitious to make the effort at general agreement. SDP members would surely welcome it and most Liberals would give it a fair wind. It would, true, be a centralized approach, but decentralization must not become an easy SDP slogan. Labour-style, to be applied as a remedy irrespective of the illness.

An Alliance government will be wise to do its utmost to work with the unions and management as social partners. But it will be strength denied to its political predecessors. It will be a shock to no-one. It need not be involved in one-sided bargains. It can offer a long-term policy, based on consent, to be fairly applied in the interests of the whole nation — and especially of the jobless.

If those social partners are too blinkered, too bloody-minded, too gripped by sectional interests, to participate, then the wage inflation tax can be ready and waiting in the wings. It may yet prove to be the best policy we have got. But I believe that there is a better way than that first worth a try.

John Grant is the Social Democrat MP for Islington Central and the party's employment spokesman.

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## Why the animal libbers see red

Police are today expected to bring charges against some of the 64 animal rights activists they arrested after last Sunday's raid on an Essex research laboratory. This was the latest of many such weekend offensives by members of the Animal Liberation Front.

The Animal Liberation Front is causing all sorts of problems: but no-one had an answer to the latest ALF-inspired crisis. It occurred at Chelmsford Police Station at supper time on Sunday, and caused a flurry of phone calls.

What, the question was put by the burly boys in blue to the British Union of Animal-Vivisectionists lady, what can we give 60 hungry, arrested animal rights campaigners to have with their chips? Chicken, they would not touch. And eggs were only tempting to them if it could be proved they were free-range.

Naturally, any ALF raid hits the headlines: animals strike poignant sentimental chords in the British breast. But that does not stop those same people clamouring for

the products and medical research which have given rise to the annual five million experiments (performed on roughly the same number of animals which have constituted a colossal ethical problem for thoughtful scientists and animal welfare alike).

There are a battery of laws, from the Medicines Act 1968 to the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, which demand that products be tested, often in a way which requires the use of animals.

Standing between the researchers and the animals is an antique piece of legislation, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1876, which was introduced after a wave of public protests about the vivisections performed by eager anatomists and their students in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. By the end of the nineteenth century there were 15 licences under the Act (a licence allows potentially painful experiments to be conducted): now there are about 20,000.

It is not the idea that laboratory personnel abuse their licences, (though it



In the arms of the Animal Liberation Front

takes very little procedural sloppiness to cause an animal terrible suffering), that motivates most powerfully the growing lobby to replace the 1876 act. It is rather a far more serious problem of defining what is worth researching or testing, and the means to do it, that fuels the BUAV, the RSPCA, the Committee to Reform Animal Experimentation and others fighting to introduce stringent consideration of what

have come to be called the Three R's.

Shiela Silcock is an erstwhile researcher who has left the pharmaceutical industry to work for the RSPCA's animal experimentation department: she is now trying to scan and assess the quality of research work which employs animals. She says: "The three R's are these: Replacement — are animals the best for a piece of work?

Reduction — can the researcher get as good results by using fewer animals?

Refinement — does the animal have to be conscious? Does it have to die?"

The scientists themselves are beginning to respond to pressure from public opinion: they agree that men of science need not throw their authority behind society's demands for 'new' lipsticks, prettier-coloured tranquilisers, Lord Perry's distinguished medical researcher and chairman of the Research Defence Society, goes rather further than many of his colleagues in agreeing that a reformed act could usefully expose potential experiments, to very public ethical scrutiny.

"Ninety-nine per cent of experiments show nothing and are useless", he believes, "but we have absolutely no way of telling which ones will prove valuable."

In the past couple of years two animal research bills, one in each House of Parliament, have been discussed. The 1980 report of the House of Lords Select Committee on the Laboratory Animals Protection Bill, which was introduced by Lord Halsbury (a former Research Defence Society chairman adds up to the most comprehensive

survey of the current debate. The Bill, as amended, is probably the best yet proposed. But the Government is unlikely to find time for it, and can relax for the time being behind the defences that there is a Council of Europe convention on the subject on the way.

The deliberate secrecy with which the 1876 Act is operated, in which it is hoped that emotive and disturbing things may be done to animals "out of sight and out of mind" is widely out of key with the notion of an open society, and it allows a ripe soup of hysteria, paranoia, misinformation and simple good heartedness to ferment.

Not many people will share the ALF's belief that nothing whatever may be done to an animal except in its own interests, and perhaps not many will trouble themselves to be inconvenienced in order to minimise animal suffering. Even fewer would accept the risk of human pain and distress that would certainly flow from the total abolition of animal experimentation and testing. But clearly animal experimentation is just one more area where scientists have to accept much tighter ethical scrutiny: without it the public's gut reaction will likely be that the ALF are something more than thugs.

The book's publication date, Attenborough quickly confirmed. It was not yet in production and could be rescheduled without great inconvenience. Would he be going away to think about that? "Yes, well, maybe."

## Disabled rights

Lord Snowdon tells PHS that there is to be no repetition of previous years' difficulties over the admission of the disabled to the Chelsea Flower Show. Last year members of the Royal Horticultural Society in wheelchairs were experimentally admitted to the show on Monday, royal viewing day. The arrangement has been confirmed for this year.

Snowdon has also successfully enlisted the aid of Ken Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council. Henceforward, unaccompanied blind persons who wish to attend concerts at the Royal Festival Hall will be permitted to do so.

"The numbers of people involved are few", Snowdon says, "but it is a question of them being able to live as normal lives as possible and to go places as of right."

Lucy Bailey, a third year English undergraduate at St. Peter's College, Oxford, makes her professional debut as a stage director of the Playhouse tomorrow with a Samuel Beckett premiere.

Beckett sent the manuscript to his old friend, and Bailey's tutor, Francis Warner. Based on an earlier prose piece, it is called *Left Hand* by Bailey explains, "six voices interwoven in a very symmetrical and mathematical fashion." Each voice has 10 sentences in each of two paragraphs which make up the 25 minutes running time.

The usual detailed Beckett stage instructions are completely missing, so Bailey went to Paris to talk her ideas over with the playwright. "We differ theatrically on certain things", she says, "but he did not tell me not to go ahead."

The players in her Rohan Theatre Group include Sir Peter Hall's daughter, Jenny, and Francis Warner has a mute and immobile part as the illuminated head around whom the voices rotate.

Peter Watkins, vicar of St Matthew's, Ealing, is appealing to clerical colleagues of all denominations to erase salacious anecdotes and other funny bits from their records. Among the tit-bits so far received is the fact that until 1939 a notice in the churchyard of St George-in-the-East announced: "No dogs or women without hats allowed in."

An entry in the 1798 register of church in Chiswick reads: "Baptism: Thomas William, illegitimate son of Maria Hawes and the soldiers in New Barracks."

Sir Geoffrey Howe to dispend with income tax, corporation tax and VAT.

The Rodriguez wheeze would put the squeeze (a fraction of 1 per cent per annum) on collateral, which he defines as "sufficient value" to make a £100,000 an assets eligible for a bank loan.

He is now working on a book about his idea. The provisional title is *Das Kollateral*.

The senator sought judicial clarification from his successor at the ministry, Jean Col. Was it not permitted "to show and to look upon that which the poet has called the pious sisters, perfect in their beauty, their curves, their proud allure, reflecting one another and making the one hang to the other?"

Vanderpoorten said he "used to believe that the sea drew back twice a day because of the frivolity of feminine fashion."

The evolution of fashion in fact, even more frequently, "sunk" into the sea.

Go ruled that "passive" sunbathing in monokinis could be tolerated under the penal code, but only on beaches and provided nobody complained.

Michael Rodrigues, founder president of the Institute of Inventors, has just invented a new tax. It would, he says, enable

PHS

## Is anyone there up the junction?

If Cyril Connolly was right, "communication with dead writers becomes particularly intense when one is reading their notebooks", and David Pryce-Jones must be in particularly intense communication with the man who described himself as "the Clapham Junction of English literature."

Connolly's widow, Deirdre, has given Pryce-Jones all Connolly's diaries of the 1920s and 1930s, an unsuspected treasure-house of Cyrillic spoofs, lampoons and jokes interlarded (if one may be forgiven the word when writing of a man whom Harold Nicolson scandalously accused of using a rasher of bacon as a bookmark) with great set pieces such as a visit to James Joyce in Paris. Without yet attempting a biography of Connolly, who died in 1974, deeply loved but also much maligned, Pryce-Jones is writing a long memoir which will introduce the diaries and explain to readers who this man was who commented upon all and sundry in such a funny and masterfully self-confident way. Alas, the diaries peter out in 1937 with the Spanish Civil War.

Siege sequel

It will be interesting to see whether *The Guardian* carries any rebuttal of a thoughtful piece by Anne Wilson which appeared in *Education Guardian* a week ago.

## Horse of parts

At last it can be told how Dublin was saved from drought through the private parts of King William of Orange's horse. The steed, Chillybore, bore the monarch in an uneasy state which stood in College Green until 1923, when republicans blew it up.

King Billy and what remained of his horse, by this time headless, were carted to a

The men from Witzend Productions were at their wits' end when they could obtain no refreshments for a unionized film crew on an Aeroflot jet from Moscow after filming Elton John's tour of Russia. The cabin staff seemed preoccupied in the car, and the first class. On arrival in London they saw Ray Buckton alight from first class to an official limousine. Was it Red Star delivery they ask.

Quick examination proved they were made of lead. Chillybore was gelded at once, and the lead used to patch the pipes. Confirming the story, a corporation spokesman said the authorities had first been asked what had happened to the monument 10 years ago, but had been too embarrassed to tell the truth.

A slip catch

PHS may just have saved the firm of Hodder and Stoughton, publishers with a strong reputation for religious books, a deal of

## THE TIMES DIARY



The mayor of Chester, who moved on, the crier, Mike Chittenden, bawls twice daily news bulletins outside Mayor Roy Love's jewelry shop. Love says: "I am afraid it is a pain in the neck for traders who also have to put up with everyone from nuclear dis-

junkyard and forgotten, until the Second World War when Dublin was having great difficulties maintaining water supplies. Thousands of gallons a day were being lost through cracks in aging pipes, and lead for repairs was scarce.

It was then that an engineer noticed Chillybore's private parts. In this respect the horse was well-endowed. He had about a stone and half of them.

Quick examination proved they were made of lead. Chillybore was gelded at once, and the lead used to patch the pipes. Confirming the story, a corporation spokesman said the authorities had first been asked what had happened to the monument 10 years ago, but had been too embarrassed to tell the truth.

PHS may just have saved the firm of Hodder and Stoughton, publishers with a strong reputation for religious books, a deal of

embarrassment during the Pope's visit to Britain at the end of May. The New English Library, an imprint Hodder bought last year, had chosen that month to publish a book suggesting that the Vatican has links with the Mafia and maintains the world's most effective network for espionage.

The book, *The Vatican Papers*, is by an Italian-American, Nino Lo Bello, who suggests that Pope Pius XI was murdered in 1939 and that John XXIII and John Paul I also died in suspicious circumstances. Lo Bello, who lives in Vienna, would have come to London to publicize the book, coinciding with the Pope's tour.

PHS put the diverting possibilities to Michael Attenborough, publishing director of Hodder, and the man chiefly responsible for the acquisition of New English Library, an imprint which already covers a multitude of sins (not least among them those chronicled by Harold Robbins).

It would be possible to change

the book's publication date, Attenborough quickly confirmed. It was not yet in production and could be rescheduled without great inconvenience. Would he be going away to think about that? "Yes, well, maybe."

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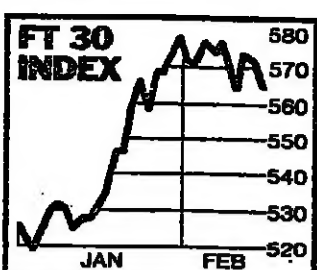
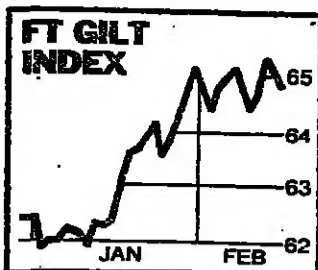






# BUSINESS NEWS

## Markets easier



London Markets continued to lose ground yesterday as dollar interest rates moved higher in response to another disappointing set of US money supply figures. The real test of markets will come this afternoon, however, once Wall Street opens. Yesterday it was closed for Washington Day.

## Mercury set for take-off

The private telecommunications consortium, Mercury, headed by Cable & Wireless, is to be granted a 15-year operating licence this week but the government is expected to allow British Telecom to retain most of its monopoly as a telecommunications carrier. Mercury will be able to lease private lines to businesses internationally but will be unable to offer services to the small subscriber wishing to make a call through an international exchange.

## Liquidator is dismissed

Chancery Lane Registrars, the company liquidating firm run by Maurice Sidney Caplan, was dismissed as liquidators of Whittell Transport in the Manchester High Court yesterday. Mr Caplan, has served two prison terms, and his firm was probed by the Department of Trade after complaints in the BBC's Checkpoint programme, and from the Insolvency Practitioners' Association.

## Contempt moves in Osprey case

Contempt of court moves have been started against a board member of British Shipbuilders and two other men in the pending action over the alleged copying of the Osprey naval patrol craft. Proceedings seeking the commitment to jail for alleged contempt were mentioned briefly to a High Court judge in London and adjourned, by consent, until February 22.

The three men are Jack Daniel, British Shipbuilders board member for warship building; David Moor, superintendent of British Shipbuilders Hydrodynamics ship tank testing laboratory at St Albans; and Mr Bill Richardson, a director of Vickers Shipbuilding and Engineering.

## New gas find

British Gas has made another discovery in the Irish Sea, about 30 miles west of Blackpool. Testing of the discovery, which is about five miles from the corporation's Morecambe Bay field (due to start production in 1984), is expected to be completed in about a week when the scale and nature of the find can be evaluated.

## Bank move

Chemical Bank, one of the big American banks operating in the United Kingdom, is moving a large part of its back office operations from London to Cardiff in a move which will create between 300 to 350 new jobs in Wales.

## MARKET SUMMARY

### Equities nervous but quiet

#### LONDON EXCHANGE

FT index fell 6.4 to 564.1  
FT Gilt 64.75 fell 0.25  
FT all share 325.38 fell 1.73  
Bargains 19.791

Talk of a bid for Booker McConnell, the Tia Maria to Budgeen supermarkets group, by Unilever lifted the price 4p to 74p yesterday as around 1m shares changed hands.

Any bid is unlikely to materialise until after the full-year figures in March, which should show a change in fortune for the troubled engineering division. Analysts reckon profits to rise from last year's depressed level of £14.5m to £18.5m.

A flurry of activity in Cope shares saw the closing price unchanged at 45p, after 47p.

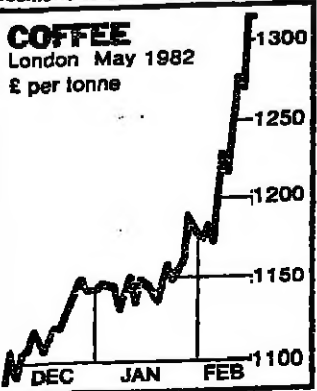
Word is that Ladbroke, down 1p at 152p, has been casting a greedy eye over Cope's business, which includes the profitable fruit machine subsidiary Bell Fruit.

Dealing in CCP North Sea Associates was temporarily suspended after the board received a bid approach.

The rest of the equity market spent a quiet day nervously speculating on the Chancellor's options in his budget on March 9.

#### COMMODITIES

Continuing tight supplies and low roaster stocks kept March coffee at a 271 premium over May, which closed at £1,316.10. Prices strengthened towards the end of the day's business after trading for most of the time below peaks reached on Friday. The physical market was quiet. But so long as the present quarter's export quotas remain in force traders expect nearby positions to show a premium.



#### TODAY

Resumed meeting of shareholders of Associated Communications Corporation, London. British Railways board meets. London. Institute of Directors seminar on overseas projects. Company results: Half-yearly: Dalgety, Parkfield Foundries, Joseph Webb. Finals: Crest International Securities, Penland Investments.

#### OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: The Nikkei Dow-Jones Average rose 21.43 to 7,694.18. Hongkong: The Hang Seng Index fell 21.69 at 1,248.35.

#### CURRENCIES

The dollar failed to hold on to the day's highs, with traders nervous of taking positions before seeing the reaction of American markets, closed yesterday.

**LONDON CLOSE**  
Sterling \$1.8375 down 25 pts  
Index 91.7 up 0.1  
DM 4.40  
Fr 11.1575  
Yen 442.50  
Dollar Index 113.4 up 0.7  
DM 2.3957 up 110 pts  
Gold \$375.50 down \$3.25

#### MONEY MARKETS

Period rates were slightly firmer. The bank gave £473m help on a shortage revised downwards from £500m to £400m. Its dealing rates were unchanged.

**Domestic rates:**  
Base rates: 14%  
3-month interbank 14 1/4%  
14 1/2%  
**Euro-currency rates**  
3-month dollar: 16%-16 1/2%  
3-month DM: 10%-10 1/2%  
3-month Fr. F.: 15%-15 1/2%

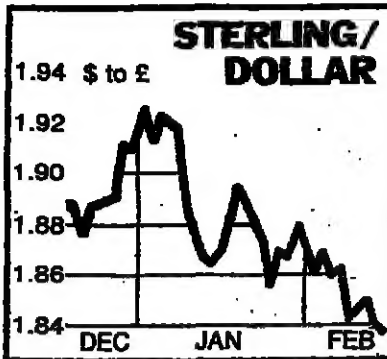
# Soaring dollar leads to fears of even higher US loan rates

By Frances Williams

World financial markets faced renewed uncertainty yesterday as the dollar soared to its highest levels for several months against European currencies and the Japanese yen. Another set of disappointing United States money supply figures could trigger fresh surges in United States interest rates.

Though dealers detected little central bank intervention in Europe to halt the dollar's advance, the strength of the dollar and the fear of rising American interest rates is causing concern to Western governments. EEC finance ministers yesterday agreed to put renewed pressure on the Reagan administration to act to bring interest rates down.

The dollar began to rise as soon as the world's financial markets opened for business in the Far East overnight on Sunday, as traders reacted to Friday's worse-than-expected United States money supply figures.



By the time the European markets opened the dollar had broken through the 2.40-deutschemarc barrier to reach nearly DM2.40, up nearly 2 pence from Friday's close and its highest level for five months.

But traders in Europe reacted cautiously to the American news, preferring to await signals from the United States when the market there reopens today after the long weekend holiday.

The dollar drifted down in quiet nervous trading to finish near the day's lows at DM2.3957, up 1.10 pence from Friday.

The dollar's trade-weighted index improved 0.7 to 113.4, reflecting gains on all leading currencies. The pound, though easing slightly against the dollar, remained strong against other currencies, buoyed by relatively high British interest rates. Yesterday's disappointing industrial production figures had been largely discounted by the market.

The outlook for American interest rates remains cloudy. Many observers believe that, under duress from the administration, the Federal Reserve Board will do its utmost to resist significant fresh rises in interest rates. Rates are expected to remain steady or move up only slightly over the next few weeks.

The remarks by Mr Volcker, chairman of the Fed, last week that it could contemplate money supply growth above target in the short term is being interpreted to mean that credit policy will not be tightened sharply in response to poor money supply figures, at least for the time being. On the other hand, no one expects rates to come down significantly in the foreseeable future, and this is what the Reagan administration and the governments of Europe desperately want.

## Dealings halted in Euroflame

By Gareth David

Stock market dealings in Euroflame, the log-burning stove company were halted yesterday pending clarification of the company's position.

The group was meeting its financial advisers, Tring Hall Securities, yesterday to consider an independent report by accountants Stoy Hayward into the company's problems. A statement will be made tomorrow.

On December 31 the group reported half-year losses of £13,000 and the directors made an unexpected forecast of substantial losses for the full year, with both dividends passed.

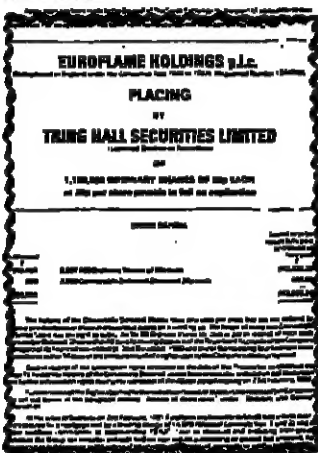
The accountants were then called in to produce a report on the business and the reason behind the missed profits forecasts.

Euroflame had had a chequered history since it was brought to the Unlisted Securities Market last year. The shares were first sold at 30p and reached a peak of 85p before being suspended yesterday at 8p.

Even the group's launch was not trouble-free, with the Stock Exchange ordering that the prospectus be reprinted when Mr John Viall, the chairman, made an off-the-cuff profit forecast.

His fore-cast of profits for the year of £335,000 was accompanied in the final offer document by forecasts of a half-year dividend of 1.428p gross and a total for the year of 3.0p, neither of which will be met.

The group's business is highly seasonal and sales this winter have been slow. There have also been problems with a log-burning cooker made by the Belgian Efel group.



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## ACC loses buyer for its Classic cinemas

By Philip Robinson

The potential buyer of Associated Communications Corporation's Classic Cinema chain announced last night it had pulled out. The privately-owned Star Group of companies, which owns 24 screens in the west-end of London, said it had withdrawn because of the time which has elapsed since it had agreed terms and the continuing uncertainty over ACC's future and its policies.

Star was believed to have offered around £7m for the cinema chain which is thought by some observers to be too cheap. Meanwhile, Mr Gerald Ronson said yesterday he intended to raise his bid price for ACC following the weekend announcement by Australian Mr Robert Holmes a Court giving shareholders a bid option which matches Mr Ronson's initial 85p share offer.

Mr Ronson's intention to pay a higher but unspecified amount for the asset-rich entertainment-to-property empire as his Heron Equity venture on February 12 was £165.920m (19,243 shares).

Sir Leo Piatzky, who is credited with getting public expenditure back under control in the 1975-76 period, estimated yesterday that such spending is equivalent in the current financial year to between 45 and 46 per cent of the nation's output of goods and services. The peacetime peak was 46 1/2 per cent in the last full year before the present Government came to office with a pledge to reduce the proportion of the economy allocated by the

down at an earlier hearing by Mr Justice Vinelott. The appeal is likely to take three days.

Meanwhile, a separate High Court action by the Post Office pension fund to prevent a record £560,000 golden handshake to dismissed ACC managing director Mr Jack Gill was adjourned for two weeks allowing ACC more time to file evidence. The resumed hearing is likely to set a date for the full trial in the petition which is supported by a number of City institutions and two subsidiary companies.

Mr Holmes a Court's new offer matches the £46.6m currently being put forward by Mr Ronson but is conditional on him getting 90 per cent acceptance.

The offer document for Mr Holmes a Court's original £36m bid was due out yesterday. It is now expected to go out today. It is believed to contain details of Lord Grade's new contract with Mr Holmes a Court, giving him a salary equal to £203,630 in March, 1984, and approval to occupy Knightsbridge flat until March, 1984, when the contract can be terminated by six months' notice on either side.

## Offshore waters to be opened for exploration

## China poised to join oil giants

By Jonathan Davis

Energy Correspondent

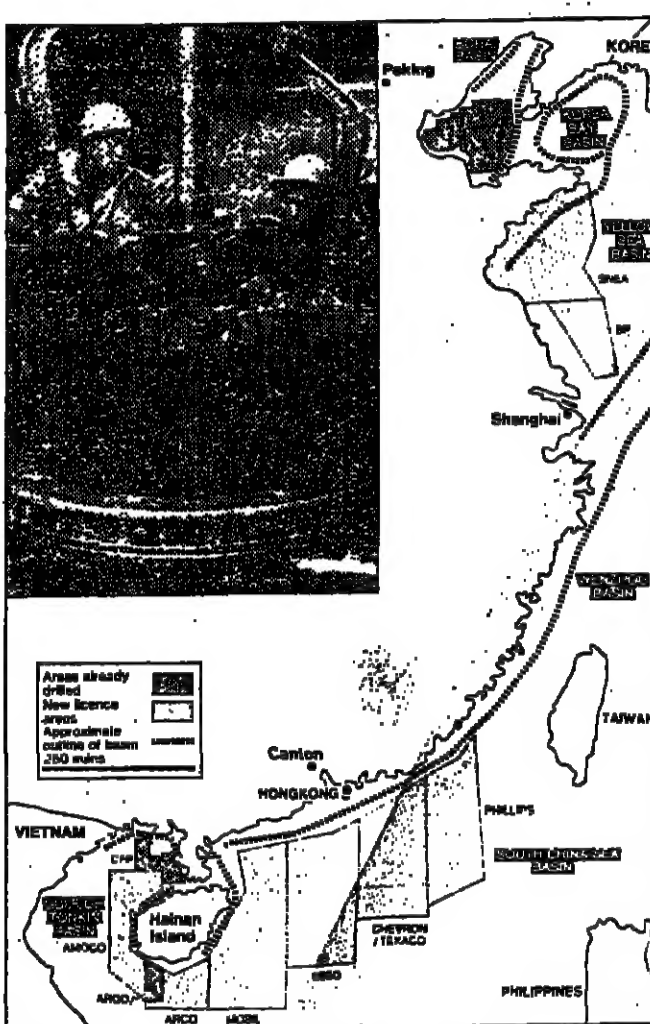
The long-awaited opening of China's offshore waters for oil exploration moved a step nearer yesterday with the announcement that it is setting up a new national offshore oil company. Foreign oil companies will be invited to bid for acreage in the next few weeks.

The move will be greatly welcomed by the oil industry, which believes that offshore China is probably the best prospective unexplored oil province in the world. Only last week an economist from Chase Manhattan bank said that China could have oil reserves as large as Saudi Arabia.

The New China News Agency said that letters of notification would be sent to foreign oil companies soon, and that all 48 companies that took part in preliminary seismic surveys two years ago would be eligible to take part in the bidding. They include not only major oil companies such as British Petroleum, Exxon and Mobil, but also a number of smaller British companies, notably Cluff Oil and Tricentral.

The new China National Offshore Company (CNOOC) will have overall responsibility for the exploration and production of China's offshore oil. A number of operating subsidiaries will cover each of the areas that China is opening up to exploration in the southern Yellow Sea and in the South China Sea.

The president of the new corporation was named as Mr Qin Wencai, who was reported to have said that China would cooperate with foreign enterprises while safeguarding its sovereignty. He said that the crucial



details of contract terms and oil companies tax obligations would be available soon. China has made it clear that foreign companies will be expected to pay for all the costs of exploration. It has not yet said how the revenues from any find will be shared, but observers believe the deal is likely to be similar to that signed between China and the Japan National Oil Company in 1980. That deal gave China the right to 42.5 per cent of oil recovered and 42.5 per cent to the Japanese state firm, with the remaining 15 per cent being sold to cover operating costs.

## BA SELLING JET TO RAISE CASH

Loss-making British Airways is on the verge of completing the sale of its only Boeing 747 freighter to Cathay Pacific Airways in Hongkong.

According to reports yesterday, Cathay confirmed that negotiations for the purchase were serious and another company source said an announcement would be made shortly. A BA spokesman in Hongkong was quoted as saying that the sale was spurred by a combination of the weakness in the (British) freight market and the need for cash.

BA has also put two Boeing 707 freighters on the market and is looking for buyers for three 747 passenger aircraft, one 707, two Tristars and one VC10.

## Piatzky fears return to Wilson era

## State spending 'nears record'

By Melvyn Westlake

Government spending is now taking a larger slice of the economy than at any time since the record levels reached seven years ago under Sir Harold Wilson's administration, according to Sir Leo Piatzky, a former top Treasury official. The proportion of the national income passing through the hands of the Government in the mid-1970s, was the highest in peacetime, provoking considerable concern about the economic and political balance within Britain.

Sir Leo Piatzky, who is credited with getting public expenditure back under control in the 1975-76 period, estimated yesterday that such spending is equivalent in the current financial year to between 45 and 46 per cent of the nation's output of goods and services. The peacetime peak was 46 1/2 per cent in the last full year before the present Government came to office with a pledge to reduce the proportion of the economy allocated by the



Mr Leo Piatzky: doubts on inflation

White Paper' is published with the Budget in three weeks.

To plan this way, the Treasury has to predict the level of inflation for many years ahead. Inflation is now projected to be 7 per cent in the coming financial year, 6 per cent in 1983-84 and 5 per cent in 1984-85. Sir Leo, a former head of the Department of Trade and Second Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, said that was a little luck and a good deal of flexibility, it may just be possible to get through 1982-83 without too much violence to the total cash provision. But it would be remarkable for the inflation assumptions for the following two years could survive.

Part of the reason that state spending has risen in relation to the whole economy is that output has been shrinking. In addition, unemployment has pushed up spending on social security and the Government has also had to spend more money on job creation and job support schemes, Sir Leo said.

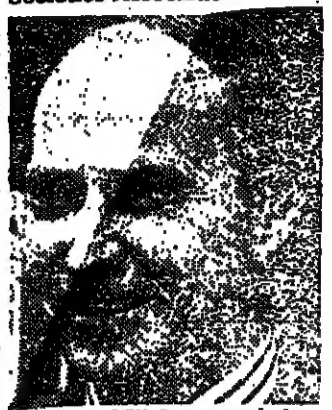
## Insurance fight for building societies

By Derek Harris,

Commercial Editor

Some of the largest of Britain's 200 building societies are squaring up to a confrontation with Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, on the amount of choice offered on insurance to homeowners with building society mortgages. It could lead to an investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

A number of key societies yesterday indicated that they regarded as a matter of principle their acting as agents for insurance companies in such deals, said Mr Richard Weir, secretary-general of the Building Societies Association.



Richard Weir: regarded as matter of principle

"They obviously believe they should cede the agency only in the most exceptional circumstances because the block insurance system, which benefits the consumer, would otherwise be at risk", Mr Weir said.

As agents for insurance companies, building societies get the commission on arranging the insurance deals. But last October, rather than face justifying the rule before the Restrictive Practices Court, the BSA agreed not to recommend any more to its members that they should act as agents on insurance for buildings.

At that time Mr Borrie said it was now open for individual societies to offer freedom of choice in property insurance. That would allow borrowers to shop around, probably using insurance brokers, for their own insurance cover.

The war between building societies and the banks to attract mortgage hunters took a new turn yesterday as Bristol & West, one of the top dozen societies, broke new ground with 100 per cent loans for first-time buyers. These loans will have a ceiling of £25,000.

Would-be borrowers will have to demonstrate their financial credibility: they should have saved between 5 per cent and 10 per cent of the house purchase price, Mr Harry Chadwick, the society's general manager said.

This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

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January, 1982



## BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

## Discovering New Zealand... uncovering Booker

## New haven for foreign investors

Suddenly New Zealand has become a market that the knowledge of the City have discovered. The shares look cheap, it has lots of energy resources, and the government has been following a helpful policy towards exporters, writes Sally White.

It might be a shock to the system to begin to think of New Zealand not as a country to retire to, but as one at which the Organization of Petrol Exporting Countries is looking as a growing and safe haven for large international funds. The International Monetary Fund is devoting one of its latest publications to the country, giving it a glowing bill of health. The Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development is coming out in favour of it as a growth area and a number of City brokers' houses are now doing good business in New Zealand.

One of New Zealand's attractions to investment funds is that in many cases the yield offered on the shares is twice that available on comparable factors in this country.

For a long time the stock exchange languished. Between 1970 and 1979 the market index moved scarcely more than 50 points either side of 300. The

currency fluctuated to unpredictably for the major funds: that it went down rather too fast. The deterioration in the terms of trade after the sharp rise in oil prices and the fall in primary commodity prices was of "unprecedented severity", according to the IMF.

On top of that New Zealand suffered from Britain's entry into the Common Market.

From this adversity, however, came a total rethinking by the authorities on how to manage the New Zealand economy. In 1975-76 the government moved decisively to tighten financial policies to contain inflation and reduce the external deficit in the current account. The extent of the switch can be gauged by the reduction in the budget deficit from the equivalent of 8 1/2 per cent of GDP in 1975-76 to 3 1/2 per cent in 1976-77. The policies were pursued on and off over the rest of the decade.

"There is enough coal for 600 years. There is the hydro-electric power, more gas than they can use and the oil coming along in a few years", according to a Henderson Crosthwaite's specialist on the country. Additionally, many local industries have only just begun to rationalize, as well as interest in the domestic industries because of the higher consumer spending likely to be generated by the expansion in the economy, there should also be that favourite of stockmarket activity lots of turnover.

Henderson Crosthwaite, and Simon Coates who also follow the country, both like Fletcher Chal-

lenge. That is probably the best stock to buy to give a coverage of the economy as a whole. It is New Zealand's largest company, with a large chunk of its business in forestry. It is also at the forefront of energy and mineral resources development for this decade. Diversification comes from its spread into construction and finance. It is currently on a p/e of about 6 1/2, and a yield of 6, prospectively.

New Zealand Forest Products is another forestry group favourite - on a p/e of around 5 and a yield of 6.5.

Wattie Industries, on a prospective p/e and yield of just over 6 in both cases, is another popular stock. It is the largest food processor in the country, and has coped well in switching its export market to the Pacific Basin.

A take-over possibility is Dominion - the second largest New Zealand brewery group. Brierley Investments, the country's eighth largest company, has a large stake in Dominion, and is tipped as a potential bidder. Dominion is on a yield of 6.5 and a p/e of 7.2 prospectively. Brierley is on a prospective p/e of around 8 and a yield of over 2.

There are also exploration companies available for the most speculative investors. Cue Energy and NZ Oil and Gas are often mentioned. Both were 1981 floatations, coming to market at a peak in the index. Overhauling both shares is a large amount of stock in the hands of potential sellers, which makes them look cheap, or ones to avoid, depending on your taste.



Oil in the pipeline: New Zealand's rich store of energy.

## Quiet rise in share price

Booker McConnell was being chased in the market yesterday. This caused some perplexity, as no one is quite sure how to categorize the company since its high days when it was a dominant force in the Caribbean sugar market. There are a lot of assets even a year ago they were put at 85p a share but who would want them? Or was it a vanguard?

Booker is now an unexciting holding company with British distribution interests such as Budgen supermarkets, and spirits and liquor interests - it owns the brand name and world-wide marketing of Tia Maria. It still has some shipping and international trading interests, and it is into turkeys and poultry in the United States. Most publicity in this country comes from its tiny authors' division.

Simon & Coates has been looking for a flat pre-tax performance of £13.5m for the year to the end of December - although it expects a recovery next year to take the pre-tax profit to £15.5m. This puts the shares on a prospective yield of just over 6 and a p/e ratio of 17.

Market rumours of potential buyers spread from BAT Industries to Unilever. A rampant analyst pointed out that both groups were anxious to spread their interests and "big enough to pay a silly price."

## DRAKE &amp; SCULL

## Dividend lifted after record year

Drake & Scull, the heating and ventilating contractor, pushed up profits by two-thirds to a record £3.6m in the year to October 31 helped by tighter controls on costs and the level of contract completion in the United Kingdom and Middle East.

The final dividend has been raised from 2.14p to 2.5p, leaving the year's payment up by 9 per cent to 4.29p.

The group says that the conditions in the market are now tighter and more competitive than a year ago. Mr Lionel Bugler, chief executive, said the group was not making any forecasts but would be happy if results were the same again in 1981-82.

Fastest growth in the past financial year came in the Middle East where profits jumped from £184,000 to £1.77m on turnover increased from £7m to £12.1m. In the United Kingdom profits rose from £1.36m to £1.93m on turnover 13 per cent higher at £84.4m.

Both Africa and the Far East produced losses. Africa turned round from £600,000 profit to £150,000 loss and the Far East from an £81,000 profit to £227,000 loss.

Drake & Scull has provided £500,000 towards the rationalization of the fan business of Sturtevant, a manufacturing company, which lost £271,000 compared with a profit of £77,000 because of a shortage of orders. Mr Bugler said that the group was aiming for a break-even result from Sturtevant in 1981-82.

Drake has filled nearly two-thirds of capacity with orders for 1981-82 the same proportion as the previous year. "We'd like more but contracts are becoming shorter-term and faster moving," said Mr Bugler.

The group's cash position



Sir Monty Finniston, chairman of Drake &amp; Scull

has improved reflecting financial controls on the business. Cash in the bank has risen from £1.67m to £5.6m. After deductions cash advances on contract and overseas work, the net cash position has risen from £42,000 to £2.2m.

## Anglian Windows

## Flotation plan

Anglian Windows is considering a flotation of the company on the Stock Exchange which would take the form of an offer for sale of part of the company's share capital by S. G. Warburg & Co.

The group manufactures replacement windows and employs 850 people at its Norwich factory and has more than 140 window centres and depots.

It was founded in 1966 by Mr George Williams, the present chairman, who holds more than 70 per cent of the share capital. One quarter of the shares are held by Silvermines, the Irish investment company, but this might be reduced in a flotation.

Mr Alan Keizer, joint managing director, said the group would launch the flotation within a year, depending on the market. He said it had plans to expand into Scotland in the autumn, opening window centres and

distribution depots, but this was not the main reason for the move.

He said that the company, whose turnover has risen from £9.5m to £48m in the past five years, had to look to the future. Pre-tax profits have risen in that period from £880,000 to more than £4m.

Following the flotation Silvermines would retain a significant holding and Mr Williams would remain the majority shareholder in Anglian.

## NORDIC BANK

## Small rise

Nordic Bank, the successful consortium bank jointly owned by the four leading Scandinavian banks, reports a small rise in 1981 profits from £12m to £12.4m pretax and Mr John Scater, managing director, said the bank was reasonably confident about 1982.

Total balance sheet footings rose from £1,441m to £1,942m, although the increase in sterling terms is partly due to the fall of the currency. About 85 per cent of the bank's assets are held in foreign currencies - mainly the United States dollar and Swiss franc - sterling depreciated by about a fifth against these during 1981.

The loan portfolio rose by a quarter to £1,041m helped by a activity in the syndicated loan market. The increase is again reflected by the drop in sterling and in real terms the increase was less than 5 per cent.

The rise in profits largely reflected higher fee income which increased from £4.5m to £5.5m. The Swiss subsidiary, Nordiska Bank, Zurich, where Nordic Bank has a 60 per cent interest, also made a bigger contribution to group profits and Nordic said there had been a small rise in average lending margin due to the bank making more longer term loans. Nordic said that the decline in lending spreads seemed to have halted.

Nordic said that there had been an increase in provisions against bad debts in

1981, including provisions on its lending to the shipping industry. However, only about 15 per cent of its loan portfolio was in shipping.

RTZ said that the main reasons for lower mining profits were increased costs at lower prices. Empress, the copper mine, incurred losses of £31.04m. Most of these losses came in the final quarter, and were increased by ore dilution and concentrator grades lower than expected.

But the company hopes for an improvement this year, although first quarter results may also be poor. Since cash is tight a dividend of three cents has been declared.

Across the border in Zambia, Rosmin Consolidated, one of the country's leading copper producers, said sales fell sharply in the third quarter to the end of December. This brings net losses for the nine months to Kwacha 41.3m (£24.7m) compared with K24.4m profit at the same stage last year.

## RIO TINTO-ZINC

Rio Tinto Mining (Zimbabwe), which has 56 per cent owned by Rio Tinto-Zinc, the British mining finance house, saw pretax profits fall last year from £27.7m to £21.7m (£12.6m). Tinto

## Fall at offshoot

Rio Tinto Zinc's offshoot, Rio Tinto Zinc (Zimbabwe) Ltd, which has 56 per cent owned by Rio Tinto-Zinc, the British mining finance house, saw pretax profits fall last year from £27.7m to £21.7m (£12.6m). Tinto

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Greyhound Corp of Phoenix, Arizona, said its Greyhound Leasing and Financial Corporation, subsidiary had filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission covering a proposed offering of \$100m of debentures due February 15, 1987.

Moody's Investors Service said it had lowered Crown Zellerbach Corporations commercial paper rating to prime-two from prime-one.

At the same time, the rating on the series "A" 4.625 cumulative convertible preferred stock was lowered to "BAA" from "A".

The company's senior unsecured debt remains classified "A", it said.

Moody's said the ratings reflect the continuing contraction of cash flow and fixed coverages as a result of adverse economic conditions.

Banque Nationale de Paris, one of the big three national-

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## Brokers merge

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## PRIME RATE

## Gloom over M1

The prospect of another rise in the United States prime rate from its current level of 16.5 per cent was increased by the news that the money supply (M1) rose by a further £2,300m (about £1,250m) in the week ended February 3.

This rise will throw the financial markets into deeper gloom. They have already got themselves into a panic over the anticipated deficit in President Reagan's budget. The unexpected rise in money announced on Friday will further depress morale.

On Thursday, the Bankers Trust Company raised its broker loan rate from 15.75 per cent to 16.5 per cent. This move in the broker loan rate could be another pointer to a further rise in the prime rate over 17 per cent. Yet another pointer is the level of the 30-day certificate of deposit rate which on Thursday got up to 15.5 per cent. At this level, many banks would feel obliged to raise the prime rate up to 17.5 per cent, a full percentage point over the current level.

Such a rise in the prime rate would be extremely embarrassing to President Reagan, who has already indicated his anger about the Federal Reserve for its failure to control money growth.

The big rise in money growth in early January has not proved to be the result of "temporary factors" as Mr Paul Volcker, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, said at the time. Rather, the increase has been embedded in the growth pattern of money. The current money stock - \$449,700m in the week ended February 3 - is several million dollars above the Fed's own growth target.

The United States Treasury officials are furious about the Fed's failure to control money growth. They say there is a direct relationship between money growth and higher interest rates and that this relationship is by far the dominant factor in the control of interest rates.

Hence, they do not foresee any prospect of lower interest rates until money growth subsides.

There will be one small bonus from the Fed's failure to control money growth in the last three months. The second quarter United States real economy is likely to be surprisingly better than expected. In the current first quarter, real gross national product may decline at an annual rate of 3 to 4 per cent. But during the second quarter, as a result of the money boom since October, real GNP in the second quarter could rise by 3 to 4 per cent, thus making good all the first quarter's prospective loss.

South African Breweries has bought Liberty Life Association of Africa's 22 per cent holding in Edgars Consolidated Holdings raising its stake in Edgars to 60 per cent. Mr Donald Gordon, the chairman, said in Johannesburg.

Rennies Consolidated Holdings announced in Johannesburg a pre-tax year with earnings per share of 105.7 cents (67.4). The final dividend was 34 cents, making 51 cents for the year.

At the same time, the rating on the series "A" 4.625 cumulative convertible preferred stock was lowered to "BAA" from "A".

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## INTERNATIONAL



## POLAND

It will probably be some days before Western banks know whether Poland has been able to live up to its promise to pay by mid-March all of the \$500m in interest and principal on a condition for completing the agreement.

According to West German banking sources, the Poles have been continuing to make payments to the banks in the West since last week when it was estimated that around \$100m had still to be paid.

But yesterday's bank holiday in the United States and the sheer difficulty of keeping track of payments to the creditor banks mean that it could be next week when the Dresdner Bank, which has been heading the force of international banks handling the Polish problem, knows whether the money has been paid.

A bank official said yesterday it was confident the Poles would live up to the pledge. Failure to progress the cash would have the gravest consequences for Poland's relations with the bankers in the West, who would put into doubt the creditworthiness of the entire Eastern block.

## SWEDEN

Saab, the Swedish car company, increased its sales in 1981 by 15 per cent from 65,000 to 75,000 during 1981, according to preliminary figures. Nearly half of the sales were in Scandinavia, but sales in Britain rose by 17 per cent.

Swedish unemployment rose in January to 15.3m from 12.5m in December and 108,000 in January 1981, according to Central Statistics office figures.

Foster Wheeler of London has won a contract worth about £25m to build an extension for the Skanska viska refinery at Lysekil, Sweden.

## BELGIUM

Mr Jaime Laya, Governor of the Philippine Central Bank, accused members of the European Economic Community of putting up protectionist barriers against Philippine exports of coconut oil, sugar, plywood, fruits, coffee, manufactured tobacco and cocoa.

The European Economic Community Commission has blocked investments in the Cockfield-Sambel steel group for a new steel furnace already under construction at the company's subsidiary Carim in Charleroi. The Commission argues that the furnace would increase Belgium's steel production when the Commission is trying to reduce output.

## SARABIA

Philips of Holland and L. Ericsson, of Sweden, have received an order worth 425m guilders (£88.4m) from Saudi Arabia to deliver and install an automatic mobile telephone system.

## SINGAPORE

Singapore has shelved plans to allow banks to offer customers secret numbered accounts. The government agency controlling financial and banking activities has found the proposals unsuitable, at least for the present.



## BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

## PEOPLE

## Roy Capel wants you!

Roy Capel, 40, wants you; or rather, he does if you handle the millions of a rich institution in the worlds of art or antiquity. But your question, and his gamble is who wants him.

Roy is Britain's last printer in Colotype and one of half a dozen in the world. Never heard of it? Until yesterday neither had I. It is a photo-mechanical process which claims to get closer to the original print, painting or manuscript than any other. But only those of exquisite taste need bother. A lithograph costing, say, £6 could easily be £50 in colotype. It is like buying hand-made shoes at £600 a pair.

Roy's gamble is in fact his last throw. He wants the world to beat a path to his Cotswold stone doors at Cotswold Colotype at Nailsworth. He has been in the business for five months (he already has a big lithograph business) but already Colotype is gobbling the profits (£150,000 a year from less than £1m turnover) of the group as a whole.

Profit margins are however, 100 per cent. If around the world, a few more people like Harvard or the Ashmolean would buy, Capel's fortune is made, and dusty plans to join the Unilever Securities Market would be swept.

Do not underestimate Mr Capel. But did Brooke Bond Liebig, the former Colotype owner know better? It was shrewd enough to get its presses from the Germans at the end of the war as reparations.



Roy Capel - a type looking for business

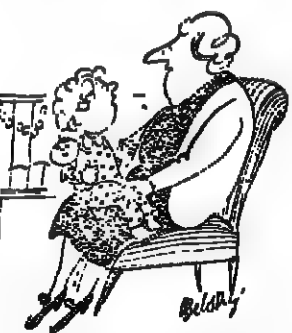
## Chocs for the sickly rich

If you earn less than about £25,000 a year and love chocolates, do not read on. Because almost more than 80 years of selling America's most expensive sweets, Karl Bissinger French Confections of St Louis is coming to England.

The company has chocolate visiting cards and greetings cards; one item consists of yellow chocolate tennis balls in a tin and another complete set of chocolate dominoes.

The president, Bud Kolbrner, dispatches most of his chocolates through mail order catalogues because it is cheaper to sell that way.

The American chocolate eater consumes 27 pounds per capita annually compared with the European's nine.



"But Gran, everyone knows that babies came out of test tubes."

Is the day dawning of speculative prison developers? Redevelopment of decaying Victorian property is no longer the monopoly of the property developer, according to Home Secretary, Mr William (short, sharp, shock) Whitelaw. Repairs to Victorian prisons would cost some £150m during the 1980s with a further £350m likely to be spent on major projects such as boilers and sewers, he said yesterday.

And to whom was he talking? Why, the annual gathering of the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers, but there is no truth in rumours of a spate of planning applications from developers wanting to build top security, low rise office buildings out of town.

Peter Wainwright

## NEW APPOINTMENTS

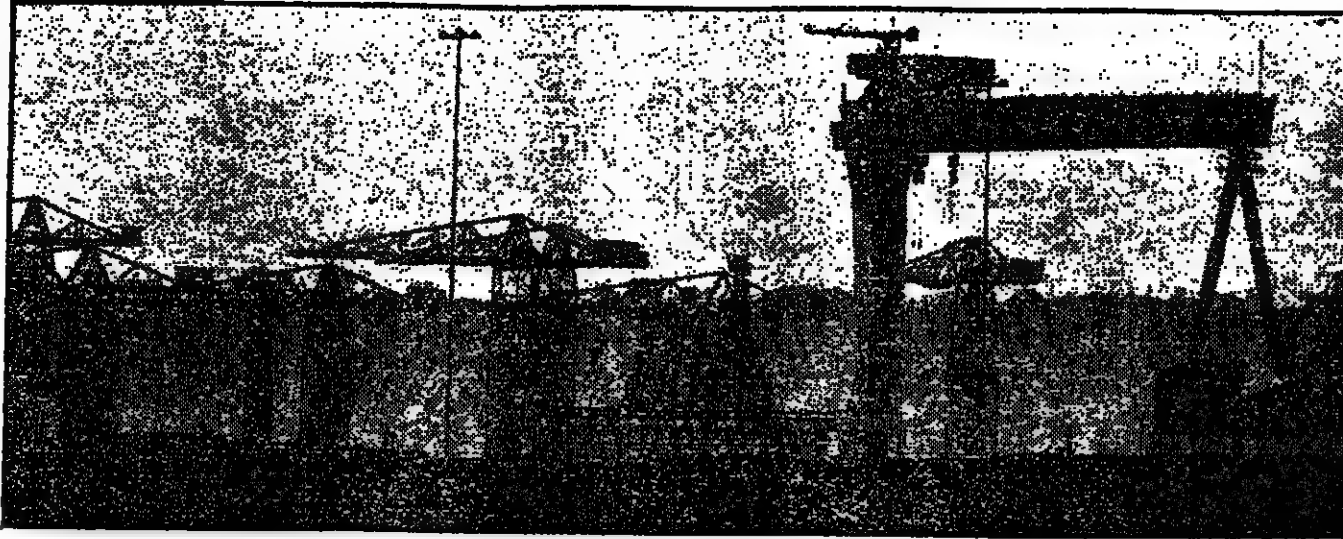
Sir Robert Clark has been appointed a director of Shell Transport and Trading with effect from March 1, 1982.

Mr P. Fairclough is to be appointed managing director of the Burnham-Castrol Company on April 1, 1982.

Mr Richard Seymour has been appointed to the Furness Withy board. Mr Seymour is chairman and managing director of Furness-Houlder (Insurance).

The fate of Harland and Wolff and De Lorean are linked. Bob Rodwell reports

## Northern Ireland: the jobs dilemma facing Mr Prior



Harland and Wolff's yard: casting a long shadow over East Belfast

The likely loss of the remaining 1500 jobs at the De Lorean sports car plant in Belfast together with the loss of as many as 3,000 in supplier companies throughout Britain has overshadowed the longer-term threat to even greater numbers in the vast Harland and Wolff shipyard in East Belfast.

The problems of the shipyard, however, can not have been far from the mind of Northern Ireland Secretary Mr James Prior during a far-from-restful weekend on his Suffolk farm.

He retired to his constituency to digest the gloomy conclusions of the Coopers & Lybrand viability study on De Lorean and the recommendations of his special adviser, that eminence grise of insolvency, Sir Kenneth Cork.

And if, as is generally believed, Sir Kenneth has advised Mr Prior that no more government aid for De Lorean can be justified, Mr Prior substantially limits the scope of manoeuvre he has to save employment at Harland and Wolff - even if he has the cash.

The shipyard's problems surfaced yesterday when the management moved fast to deny a news agency report that it was issuing redundancy notices to between 700 and 1,000 of its 7,000 Belfast employees. This was no more than press resurrection of a warning by the Chairman Dr Vivian Wadsworth, made last year, that if it did not receive new orders soon, the redundancy of some 700-1,000 workers would be inevitable by the spring, a spokesman said.

No notices have been issued but Dr Wadsworth's warning remains valid. New orders are as desperately needed as ever. Harland and Wolff - renowned but outside British Ship Builders with its ownership vested in the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce rather than with the Department of Industry in Whitehall - has not shared in the very modest recovery in the fortunes in the mainland industry.

The Belfast order book is extremely thin with only four ships, to be completed by next year and one of these, a complex Liquefied Petroleum Gas Carrier, is almost ready for sea trials. In the engine works which employs 500, short time is already in force much to the irritation of the unions who contend that an overloaded British Ship Builders is subcontracting mar-

ine engine work to Japan, rather than to the equally competent H and W at home. As an immediate "life saver" the shipyard is putting an order for a 119,000 tonne ore carrier for British Steel. Pressure is being brought on the Government to ensure that this ship is both ordered quickly and ordered from Belfast in the hope of averting the most imminent redundancies.

Both H and W and the unions have a good case to build this vessel, three ore carriers of the same size having been built in Belfast in recent years specifically for British Steel and all have proved satisfactory. But it will require a subsidy from the Government's intervention fund to enable H and W to compete with international prices and, probably, considerable pressure on British Ship Builders to order the ship ahead of its own good time.

In the longer term H & W have a number of tenders out and are chasing several contracts in the market where would-be builders still greatly outnumber eager purchasers. One particular sales thrust is towards the predicted increase in the international coal trade for power generation, with a series of designs for "colliers" which can themselves be coal-fired in line with the forecast move away from oil. The hottest prospect for a batch order for such ships is to the Israel Ministry of Shipping with whom negotiations have been in

progress for many months without much sign of hope.

There are few similarities between a shipyard building three or four vessels a year and a factory which was until last month building 80 cars a day but, nonetheless, H & W and De Lorean's destinies are inter-linked. The shipyard has been the industrial foundation of Protestant Belfast for well over 100 years; the new car plant was intended to bring a prosperous future to the predominantly Catholic West Belfast communities

**'If the Government bails out De Lorean the shipyard workers will feel no less entitled to further help'**

which have never had an industrial base of any kind.

If the Government were to allow De Lorean to fail before the company has ever been allowed to thrive, and then shell out yet more money to keep H & W marginally afloat, it would certainly be seen as the act of a Protestant dominated Government and clear discrimination against the Catholic minority.

It would almost certainly damage Mr Prior's chances of moving towards a mutually acceptable political settlement later this year. If,

however, he bails out De Lorean the shipyard workers and their supporters will feel no less entitled to further government help.

Since the mid 1960s the shipyard has consumed well over £200 million of public money. The management is understood to have warned the Government that it is unable to contain itself within this year's spending limit of £56.5 million - £46 million from the government and £10.9 million in outside borrowing.

Without a major and unlikely spate of orders, there is no of keeping to its recently submitted corporate plan. Though ostensibly confidential, this is known to have forecast a decrease to below £20 million in government assistance by the year 1984/5.

Beside the scale of the shipyard and car plant problems, Mr Prior's other industrial headaches are relatively minor, but with Ulster unemployment now nudging 125,000 and rapidly approaching an overall rate of 25 per cent, they are no less pressing.

The State owned aircraft and missile makers Short Brothers are being forced to shed a further 650 white collar and shop floor personnel after a recent shakeout of several hundred through early retirements and voluntary redundancy. But its underlying position is considered healthy once the world-wide slump in commercial aircraft sales ends.

Another government-funded aeronautical venture, the Learfan project to produce a radical all-carbon-fibre twin-engine business aircraft under development in the United States continues to progress in employment terms. Some 600 are employed in Northern Ireland with a growth to 1,000 planned for the end of the year and US FAA certification of the aircraft targeted for 1983.

There are many similarities in this venture with De Lorean, and perhaps wisely Mr Prior has been keeping its head low on recent weeks. Unlike Mr John De Lorean however, the parent Learfan company in Nevada has, successfully, raised private investment capital with a recent \$30 million share flotation to set against the £27 million in grants and loan capital which the government has contributed.

In longer established fields times are hard for textile machinery engineers James Mackie which has matched H and W in both age and influence as an industrial pillar of Protestant Belfast for more than 140 years. Having shed 800 workers in the last quarter of last year Mackie is now dismissing a further 400 to reduce to a mere 1300 a workforce which numbered about 4,000 only five years ago.

At the beginning of next month will be decision day for one of only three remaining synthetic fibre plants in Northern Ireland, the much-reduced British Enka facility at Antrim, where only 800 now work after the decimation of a once huge industry which has seen Courtauld, ICI and Du Pont disappear.

Antrim has been operating under a review of performance and future market scheduled for the end of this month. There are grounds for optimism however, that the Dutch and German owners will now agree to the plant remaining open on its now much reduced scale and that the remaining jobs will be secured.



Mr John Winnington-Ingram, managing director of the soon-to-be-launched Mail on Sunday. One in five people do not take any Sunday paper at all

as high as those of the creative people in advertising whose status had never been in doubt.

The imminent media explosion will further increase the importance of media planners and buyers within the advertising process.

The launch of the Mail on Sunday will fill one of the last major market gaps in British publishing, by providing head-on competition for the Sunday Express, which monopolizes the middle ground of Sunday newspapers.

"One in five people do not take any Sunday paper at all," the Mail on Sunday's managing director, John Winnington-Ingram, told the delegates in Rome. His newspaper, which will be a 64-page tabloid, is aiming for a circulation of 1½ million within two years.

That may benefit Associated Newspapers, which needs to spread some of the overheads borne currently by the Daily Mail. It may well be of benefit to the readers of the new publication. Whether it is ultimately of benefit to advertisers, is questionable.

## Business Editor

## Curiouser and curiouser

The Associated Communications Corporation saga grows curiouser and curiouser. Alice herself would be bemused by the following situation: Mr Robert Holmes a Court has two concurrent offers on the table; Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Corporation is bidding without a full understanding of ACC's financial position; the institutions are torn between principle and the desire for an increasing auction price; and Mr Jack Gill still does not know whether he will pick up his £560,000 golden handshake.

Mr Holmes a Court's first bid was made merely to conform to Take-Over Panel rules. With his second offer, of 85p for each of the non-voting shares and 340p for the voters, Mr Holmes a Court could be seen as reacting not only to the first Heron offer, but also to criticism that he was prepared to walk away from the battle.



Mr Holmes a Court, chairman of the Bell Group

But that may be putting too charitable a face on the move. In effect, Mr Ronson has been put under pressure to raise the stakes further - and Mr Holmes a Court can still walk away, only on yet more favourable terms.

If it is deemed that Mr Ronson has to keep his bid ahead of Mr Holmes a Court to keep his court case alive, then one could say he is simply hoist with his own petard. On the other hand, it is hardly satisfactory that he should find himself under such pressure given that it is not totally inconceivable that shareholders might, at the end of the day, find themselves left with only Mr Holmes a Court's original bid on the table.

The ACC battle has dragged on too long. An important public company is being treated to entrepreneurial manoeuvring rather than to rational decision-taking.

## Science parks Funds threat

The University of Warwick Science Park, announced yesterday, represents a £2m investment by the university and three local authorities: West Midlands and Warwickshire county councils and Coventry city council.

It is a welcome economic

initiative, bringing high technology firms to an area hit hard by the decline of traditional industries, and encouraging the commercial exploitation of academic research.

An important ingredient in the latest set of proposals is financial support by local authorities. But that is unfortunately threatened by legislation proposed by the Government last week, which would place limits on the aid councils can give local industry.

Although the precise nature of the legislation is not clear, the written answer given in the House of Commons by Mr Tom King, the Local Government Minister, indicates that councils will not be allowed to devote more than the product of a halfpenny rate on financial aid to small companies.

According to Mr Geoffrey Edge, chairman of the West Midlands County Council Development Committee, his authority would not have been able to commit its £545,000 to the Warwick science park if the proposed legislation were already on the statute book. The Government should make clear that support for science parks is not included in the halfpenny limit.

## Markets M1 blues

Yet another disappointing set of American money supply figures late on Friday produced the inevitable result when markets opened yesterday morning. Up went Eurodollar interest rates, the three-month rate in London pushing almost a ½ per cent higher to 16½ per cent; and up went the dollar through the DM2.40 level.

Sterling duly fell against the American currency, dipping below the \$1.83 level at one stage. But it again performed well against other currencies and domestic interest rates were only a touch firmer. The three-month Eurosterling rate is now a full two points below the Eurodollar rate.

While that holds out at least one crumb of comfort, the authorities must find all the other main policy gauges highly confusing at the moment. The January money supply figures were far from good and the continuing high level of bank lending to the private sector especially puzzling.

Yet yesterday's industrial production figures for December showed their second consecutive monthly fall, with manufacturing output dropping back to its lowest level for 14 years.

Not that the December fall was unexpected. But taken together with the lack of confidence shown in the recent CBI industrial survey, it is clear that the recovery in most sectors is still slow and tentative. Whether the Chancellor proposes to deal with that through the fiscal or the interest rate regulator on March 9 remains to be seen.

## An embarrassment of riches

Next month IPC Magazines is to launch a major new monthly for women called Options. On May 2, Associated Newspapers is launching the first new national Sunday newspaper for more than 20 years, the Mail on Sunday. In November, a second commercial television channel, Channel Four, goes on the air.

New commercial radio stations are being launched at the rate of about nine a year. An announcement about the fifth and sixth television channels, incorporating satellite broadcasting, is expected from the Home Secretary this week. ITV's breakfast television service will begin in May next year.

For the advertising and marketing companies whose 1980s is going to be an exciting, if not frightening decade

money will finance most of these new media developments, the 1980s is going to be an exciting, if not frightening decade. After many years of comparative stability in the media world, with a single commercial television channel and a largely unchanging number of national newspapers (despite the constant threats to various titles' survival, including that of The Times and The Sunday Times) Britain is on the brink of a media explosion.

The process has already begun. Last year saw the launch of two new Sunday colour magazines, the Sunday Express Magazine and the News of the World's Sunday, which increased the Sunday colour market by some 15 million readers.

The relaunch of the TV Times Magazine at the same time, with an increase in the number of pages, meant that where advertisers had once complained that there were insufficient readers and insufficient availability of colour advertising space for them to produce effective campaigns, they now have more than enough of both. At the same time, total Fleet Street circulations rose for the first time in 20 years, with the newest national daily, the Daily Star, growing fastest.

The colour magazine boom, on its own, would have been very welcome to advertisers, as indeed, on its own, would be Channel Four. The growth

## MARKETING AND ADVERTISING: THE MEDIA

By Torin Douglas

in the number of radio stations, television channels, and various publications is welcomed to advertisers, who are constantly looking for new opportunities to reach the public more effectively and economically.

The problem for them is that everything is changing at once. There is no time to assess the impact of a new development before the next has arrived and since millions of pounds of advertising money is at stake, the consequences for Britain's marketing companies could be serious.

"It is going to be a decade of dramatic change," delegates were told last week at a conference in Rome called Media in Ferment. "All media are growing," said Simon Lloyd, the media director of advertising agency Foote Cone and Belding, "and we are going to need a real growth of 10 per cent in advertising expenditure by 1983 if the new media are to survive without taking money from the existing ones."

Whether that 10 per cent will be forthcoming is questionable. On the surface, this should benefit advertisers considerably, because with increased competition among salesmen, prices should drop. Unfortunately, the increase in the number of media available will also lead to a greater fragmentation of the audience, so that advertisers will have to spread their money widely if they are to reach the same number of people.

The most striking example is that of television, where for 25 years advertisers have had a single mass-audience channel through which to sell goods and services. In recent years, the increasing competitiveness of BBC 2 has led to its taking viewers away from the two major channels, thus reducing the number of viewers available to advertisers. The arrival of Channel Four will fragment the television audience even further, even though it may increase the total number of viewers to commercial television. Add to this the possibility of the fifth and sixth satellite channels, the cable services

available in some parts of the country, the increase in sales of video cassette recorders - which divert potential viewers away from the regular channels - and the use of the television set for video games and television information and we can see why the advertisers' strategy will have to change.

The advantage of a fragmented audience is that advertisers will be able to target campaigns more directly at sections of the population, pinpointing groups who are known to be users of their products or services. This, of course, requires greater planning by the advertising agency and reliable market research on which to make the media buying decisions.

The 1980s will be the era of the media buyer," Brian Downing, the managing director of IPC Women's Magazines Group, told the conference.

"Campaigns will increasingly be directed at more specific groups and not at the great lumps of the mass market," said John Ferriss, media director of Saatchi and Saatchi Garland-Compton. "There must be more detailed planning and fine tuning."

The changes come against the background of a growing recognition within marketing companies and their agencies of the vital importance of the media planning and buying function. Only 10 years ago, the media department of an agency was often regarded virtually as an order-processing department and in many

There is no time to assess the impact of a new development before the next has arrived

agencies the media director had no seat on the board. The growing complexity of advertising rate cards, particularly those from television companies, and the increase in the cost of advertising campaigns meant that large advertisers found they could save millions of pounds by improved negotiation with the media owners.

The rising status of the media department was accelerated by the founding of a number of independent media companies, which planned and bought campaigns directly for advertisers. Soon television time-buyers found they were able to command salaries almost

## INVESTORS CAPITAL TRUST PLC

Annual Report for the year to 30th November 1981

## Capital Growth

The principal objective of the Company is capital growth. Since 1974, when the Company's policies were re-defined, the assets have grown from £53m. to £110m. and the net asset value per Ordinary Share has increased by 128 per cent thus outperforming the major indices in the U.K. and U.S.A.

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Over the period 1974-81 dividends paid to shareholders have kept pace with the increase in the retail price index, and it is the Company's declared intention that its dividends should increase with the growth in value of the investment portfolio.

## International Character

The Company has been investing around the world since 1891 and to-day retains a very large overseas portfolio while not confining its investments to any one market or sector. Shareholders have a stake in an international portfolio which many could not duplicate for themselves and at a cost which the smallest investor can afford.

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Australia and Far East	5%
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## Stock Exchange Prices

## Dull start to account

ACCOUNT DAYS - Dealings Began Feb 15. Dealings End Feb 26. \$ Contango Day, Mar 1. Settlement Day, Mar 8.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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Racing

# Broadsword's fan club gains an important member

By Michael Seely

The thrills of Cheltenham seemed only just around the corner at Nottingham yesterday as Broadsword had totally outclassed his rivals in the City Trial Hurdle. Giving weight away all round, Broadsword sprinted away on the run-in to beat Secret Ballot by three lengths, with No Bombs a length away third.

It had been a faultless performance by Lord Nottingham's five-year-old, and no one was more impressed than Peter Easterby, who has already trained five winners of the City Trial Hurdle. "That's the way we've got to beat," said Easterby, "wake up now, I'll show the headlines tomorrow. Broadsword's a real winner."

Yesterday's racing was living proof of the fact that people will go to watch the stars in action. David Henson, the clerk of the course, said that the crowd was a third up on a normal Monday afternoon. The feeling of anticipation in the air was increased when looking at the favourite in the paddock before the race. Broadsword's quality was turned out in magnificent condition by David Nicholson.

Pride in his horse's achievement was reflected in the eyes of both the owner and trainer afterwards. "I've been training him for one year and one day, and he's coming to his best at the right time. Broadsword has never been off the horse in his work at home. He won't run again before the big day, and I'll take him somewhere for a private gallop ten days before the Festival."

Scudamore was also pleased as punch. "David has done a marvellous job with the horse. The difference is that he's quicker than most of the other horses. That's because he's now fully developed and much stronger. Even if the second and third run 7lb below their best form, it was still a smart effort. Don't forget that Secret Ballot and No Bombs have won a Scottish Champion Hurdle and a Royal Doulton Handicap between them."

Yesterday's winning time of 3m 57.5s, on dead ground, further endorsed the merit of Broadsword's victory.

And so the scene is set for another epic struggle for the championship, Broadsword, Darling Run, and Elkhato have all shown their wellbeing over the weekend, and are now ready to throw down the gauntlet to Sea of Pigeon on March 16 as the old warrior attempts to win this for the third successive year.

Darling Run is favourite at 3-1 with most leading firms of bookmakers, who have Elkhato bracketed together at 4-1. "Broadsword should be favourite," said Easterby. "He's going to have a stiff climb to the finish." "We have to agree with the bookmakers, although Sea of Pigeon will still prove a formidable opponent."

Jim Wilson, who was seen at his strongest when lifting Troye, went past the post, in the 17/21 Lancashire Challenge Cup, might travel north to Newcastle on Friday to ride Little Owl in the £10,000 Trout Handicap Stakes.



Broadsword (left): on his way to an impressive victory over Secret Ballot

One of last season's Gold Cup winners' rivals in the Newcastle race will be Michael Dickinson's easy winner, Lord Nottingham's five-year-old, and no one was more impressed than Peter Easterby, who has already trained five winners of the City Trial Hurdle. "That's the way we've got to beat," said Easterby, "wake up now, I'll show the headlines tomorrow. Broadsword's a real winner."

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## Towcester programme

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89	0099	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
90	0100	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
91	0101	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
92	0102	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
93	0103	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
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105	0115	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
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113	0123	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
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115	0125	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
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190	0200	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
191	0201	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
192	0202	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
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240	0250	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
241	0251	SPRING SAINT (C) Mrs M Babbage 9-11-10
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